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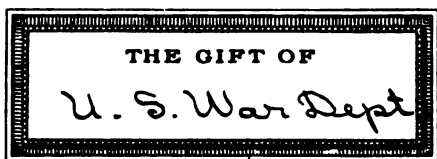
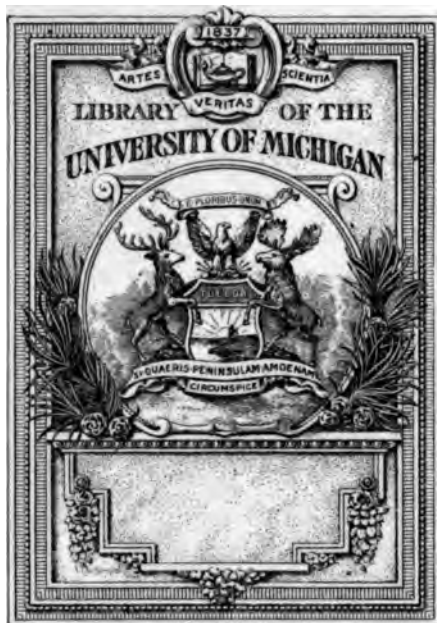
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ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

WAR DEPARTMENT

FOR THE

FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1905.

VOLUME III.

REPORTS OF DIVISION AND DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1905.

ARRANGEMENT OF THE ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE WAR DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1905.

Volume I	Secretary of War: Chief of Staff. The Military Secretary. Inspector-General. Judge-Advocate-General.
Volume II	Armament, Transportation and Supply: Quartermaster-General. Commissary-General. Surgeon-General. Paymaster-General. Chief of Engineers, Military Affairs. ^a Chief of Ordnance. ^b Chief Signal Officer. Chief of Artillery. Board of Ordnance and Fortification.
Volume III	Division and Department Commanders: Atlantic Division— 1. Department of the East. 2. Department of the Gulf. Northern Division— 1. Department of the Lakes. 2. Department of the Missouri. 3. Department of Dakota. Southwestern Division— 1. Department of Texas. 2. Department of the Colorado. Pacific Division— 1. Department of California. 2. Department of the Columbia. Philippines Division— 1. Department of Luzon. 2. Department of the Visayas. 3. Department of Mindanao.
Volume IV	Militia Affairs, Military Schools and Colleges, Military Parks, and Soldiers' Homes. The Military Secretary, Militia Affairs. ^c Military Academy— 1. Board of Visitors. 2. Superintendent. Infantry and Cavalry School and Staff College. School of Application for Cavalry and Field Artillery. Artillery School. Engineer School. School of Submarine Defense. Army Medical School. Commissioners of National Military Parks— 1. Chickamauga and Chattanooga. 2. Gettysburg. 3. Shiloh. 4. Vicksburg. Soldiers' Home, District of Columbia— 1. Board of Commissioners. 2. Inspection of. Inspection of National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers.
Volumes V-VIII	Chief of Engineers.
Volume IX	Chief of Ordnance.
Volumes X-XIV	The Chief of the Bureau of Insular Affairs, the Philippine Commission, and Acts of the Philippine Commission.

^a Printed in Report of Chief of Engineers, Vol. V.
^b Printed in Report of Chief of Ordnance, Vol. IX.
^c Printed as Appendix B in Report of Secretary of War, Vol. 1.

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**REPORT ATLANTIC DIVISION AND DEPARTMENT
OF THE EAST.**

REPORT ATLANTIC DIVISION.

HEADQUARTERS ATLANTIC DIVISION,
Governor's Island, New York, August 31, 1905.

SIR: The undersigned assumed command of the division December 1, 1904, relieving Brig. Gen. F. D. Grant.

The number of officers and enlisted men is as follows:

	Officers.	Enlisted men.
Present.....	518	13,915
Absent.....	218	1,667

Of course only a small percentage of the officers reported absent are those actually away from any duty, as on leave of absence, sick, etc., the larger part being on detached service performing duties other than with their proper commands. The figures hereon do show that there are not enough officers to perform all the duties required and that some means should be provided to insure a larger number of officers for duty with the troops. With this end in view I recommend that all details for college and militia duty be from the retired instead of the active list, also that the same rule apply so far as practicable to the recruiting service. The lists of officers on detached service of all kinds should be carefully supervised, and those not performing absolutely necessary duties returned to their proper commands; then, if practicable, the necessary legislation obtained to provide for filling of vacancies caused by details to the General Staff and aids to general officers. Such provision is especially necessary in regard to captains and lieutenants. The discipline and instruction of the enlisted men depends so largely upon the company officers that it is absolutely necessary for the good of the service that the largest percentage possible should be with their commands.

The most important event in the division was the joint army and navy exercises, in June, covering the artillery districts of Baltimore, the Potomac, and the Chesapeake. These exercises were instructive and profitable. The bringing together of so many officers and men, under conditions of service approximating to war conditions, is of great benefit. Not the least valuable part of these exercises is that defects in material and methods are revealed that can not be discovered otherwise. Many of the reports submitted by officers on duty in connection with these exercises contain valuable suggestions and recommendations, and are worthy of careful consideration. I rec-

commend that they be edited and published confidentially for the information of all concerned.

It is thought that these exercises should occur only every two years. A year should be taken to study and discuss the reports on the exercises and to arrive at conclusions in regard to points presented for discussion. The conclusions having been reached, a year should be allowed to select and equip the section of the coast line determined upon for the next exercises, and to enable the Navy to study plans of attack and the Army plans of defense.

At the close of the exercises a full report was submitted, together with reports from district commanders and subordinate officers—line and staff—and all obtainable data bearing on the subject. To avoid duplication and as a considerable part of the papers referred to were of a confidential nature, I respectfully refer to that report for information regarding the matters referred to therein.

There are certain deficiencies of material, to which attention is called in the annual report of the commanding general Department of the East. I concur in his recommendations in regard to boats for artillery purposes, washable work clothing for coast artillery troops, searchlights, mixed batteries, heating plotting rooms along the New England coast, and lights for gun platforms. Suitable searchlights are needed at many coast artillery posts to carry on drill and instruction at night.

Inspections, including inspections of the organized militia and of colleges having an officer of the Army on duty as provided for by law, is the most important duty now under the immediate direction of the division commander. The service of the regular inspectors at these headquarters has been very satisfactory, and that by detailed officers generally so.

From personal inspections and reports of inspectors I find the troops generally in excellent condition and well supplied and cared for. The drill and discipline is generally up to the average. The shortage of officers has been severely felt in all commands, and many of the officers present have been compelled to assume an undue amount of responsibility and to do an amount of work that should not be required of them.

Small-arms target practice appears to have been generally well conducted and satisfactory. The division competition at Fort Niagara was very satisfactory, and while the result was not all that could have been desired it was all that could reasonably have been expected when it is remembered that competitors for places in the division team had their preliminary practice at various places, extending from Lake Ontario to Georgia, and from Porto Rico to the Philippines.

The outcome of the national match at Seagirt this year has shown forcibly the disadvantage under which the army teams shoot at this big match. The soldier enters into competition the instant he fires his first shot on the home range at the beginning of the target season, and the strain of competition is kept up until the final shot is fired at the end of the national match. The competitor strains to make a place on the division team. Having succeeded in this, he is under a greater strain when he gets to the army competition and competes for a place on the army team. Having won a place on the army team, he

goes directly to compete in the national match, so that he is keyed to the highest pitch for two months without the slightest rest.

In my opinion it would be of great value to the army team could it have at least a month's rest between the army competition and the time of entering the national match. During this month the team coach would have an opportunity of learning something of the capabilities of the individual members. They could practice without the nervous strain incident to competitions, and the team would enter the national match with a far better chance of winning than it has ever had.

The State teams are practically picked long before the time for entering the match, while no one knows who will represent the Army until just before the match is shot.

I would also recommend that the army competition conform to the national match, as to ranges and number of shots. This would tend to perfect, in the long-range firing, those men who are to represent the Army in the national match.

There seems to be more or less discussion at present as to the advisability of having officers and enlisted men compete against each other. In my opinion it would be inadvisable to separate them. I believe that in the division competition the team should be composed of enlisted men, and that extra medals should be given to officers; that officers who win medals shall be considered as extra members of the division team, and shall have a chance to compete for places on the army team.

The officers' scores, to entitle them to medals of the metal they would be entitled to were they considered as shooting with the enlisted men, viz, 1 A to gold, 2 A to silver, 3 A to bronze, provided they make a score equal to or greater than the score made by the enlisted man winning either a gold, silver, or bronze medal.

When the shooting begins for the army team the medals could be awarded in the same manner, except that the team to shoot in the national match should be composed of the twelve highest scores, whether they be officers or enlisted men. Thus we should have the Army represented by the best shots, which is much to be desired, in the national match.

The artillery practice with large caliber coast guns and mortars during the past year has been encouraging. The average per cent of hits of 8-inch, 10-inch, and 12-inch guns has been 72 per cent at 3,000 yards, 38 per cent at 6,000 yards, and 15 per cent at 9,000 yards.

Considering the pit of four mortars as the unit for mortar fire, the average per cent of hits of mortars was about 33 per cent.

It is recommended that a subcaliber tube be provided for each coast gun and mortar, and be regarded as a part of the normal equipment of these pieces.

Just as the subcaliber tube has been used to develop team work, so should another device, known as the Morris tube—a small 0.22-inch rifle barrel attached to the guns—be used to develop the individual skill of our gunners, particularly those of the rapid-fire guns. This matter has been brought to the attention of the War Department by the artillery inspector of the Atlantic Division, and favorable consideration of the recommendation has been indicated. It is urged that the matter receive early definite action. The Navy has used the device with advantage for several years.

SCHOOLS.

Over 1,500 enlisted men attended the post school, studying the lower grades, reading, penmanship, spelling, arithmetic, geography, and United States history. Of these, over 600 studied grammar, and a few higher mathematics. The average daily attendance was 777, and the progress is reported good.

Owing to the facilities for attending public and private schools, less than one-fourth of the posts in this division maintained schools for children; the total attendance of children being 96. These schools were conducted, as far as practicable, under the supervision of army chaplains, and in other cases under officers considered by post commanders specially fitted for this duty.

No recommendations relative to battalion and squadron schools for noncommissioned officers, which were carried on according to the War Department orders then in force, are made at this time, owing to the change in the method of instruction contained in recent orders.

The garrison school for officers, being the subject of a special report, it is necessary to say only that the progress made was quite satisfactory and that the new orders on this subject will tend to materially lessen the small difficulties in administration experienced during the last year's course.

CLERKS.

If the clerks at headquarters of divisions and departments are to remain a distinctive corps, as authorized by the act of Congress of August 6, 1894, some remedial legislation should be enacted to place them on the same equality as regards pay with clerks in other branches of the Government.

Under the present organization limiting the amount of salaries in the several grades, many clerks have been in the service for a decade or more and have never received an increase in salary, for the reason that so few vacancies in the higher grades occur.

The clerks on duty in the Philippine Islands, after several years of duty there, and after having received well-earned promotions, are returned to the United States at a reduction in salary of from \$200 to \$600 per annum, because, as the organization now exists, there is no vacancy in the United States in a higher grade to which they can be appointed.

As a result of these conditions a majority of the efficient men seek every opportunity to leave for better paid positions in other branches of the Government, and the Department is constantly training new and inexperienced clerks only to have them leave after their training and experience have commenced to make them valuable.

As a remedy, it is suggested that a system of longevity pay be inaugurated increasing salaries \$100 per annum after five years' service and giving an additional increase of the same amount for each subsequent period of five years. This would relieve the present unsatisfactory condition, and a clerk entering the service at \$1,000 per annum would be assured, if his services were satisfactory, of securing a moderate increase in his salary at the end of each succeeding five years' service with the Government. Thirty years is the limit of usefulness set by Congress to the service of enlisted men,

and if the same limit was set to those of clerks, they would at the end of thirty years be drawing a salary of but \$1,600, a very modest income, indeed, when it is considered that the same efficiency and faithfulness to duty in commercial pursuits would bring much better financial results.

The principle involved in this suggestion is not a new one in the War Department. For the officer there is "longevity pay," and for the enlisted man there is "continuous-service pay." In fact, for the three general divisions of the personnel of the War Department, officers, enlisted men, and civilian employees, provision is made for a graded increase of pay of the first two divisions, based on length of service, but no similar provision is made for the civilian employees.

If this system of longevity pay is not considered practicable, then it is suggested that the organization as now constituted be abolished and reorganized along the same lines as the clerical force of the supply departments, thus placing the clerks of the new organization on the same equality, as regards pay and promotion, with those of other departments of the military service. In those departments a certain amount of money is appropriated for hire of clerks, and they receive such compensation as their services warrant, and if efficient are speedily promoted to living salaries.

COAST ARTILLERY.

About 73 per cent of the Coast Artillery is serving in this division. The present organization has not given entire satisfaction. Some officers are of the opinion that a return to the regimental organization would be an improvement; others, especially, I think, among those who have been somewhat intimately associated with the Navy during the joint exercises of the past few years, favor doing away with the present company organization and replacing it with what may be called a "district organization." I have not seen this scheme fully worked out, but I understand it to be based, partly, upon the naval system of assignment of crews to ships—each battery or post to have assigned a "crew"—the "crews" of the various batteries in a district, plus the officers and men assigned to headquarters staff departments, etc., to constitute a district organization, which would be the lowest unit of the system. In my opinion, it would be found necessary, for purposes of discipline, pay, rations, clothing, etc., to subdivide this unit, and this would be getting back very nearly to the present system. The present law makes the present company organization very elastic. I do not think it has yet been fully tested. It seems capable of filling all or nearly all the essential features of the proposed district system.

Much has been said and written upon the necessity for a higher grade of intelligence in the artillery soldier—to be secured by higher pay. This is to a considerable extent true; higher education and especially greater skill in mechanics naturally demand greater wages. What per cent of the artillery personnel must be of a higher order I can not say, but I believe that for the greater part of the enlisted force of the artillery arm, the average soldier, if he can be induced to remain more than one enlistment, will be found fully competent. There is an urgent demand for a decided increase in the Artillery

Corps—commissioned and enlisted. I concur in this and fully recognize its importance; however, I can not fail to notice the constant complaints of inability to keep the present authorized enlisted strength up to the maximum, caused by desertions and failure of discharged men to reenlist. Would it not be wise, while asking for more men, to ascertain why we can not keep those we have and try to provide a remedy? In my opinion, one principal cause of discontent is the monotony of the surroundings, without hope of a change of station; another cause is the very frequent changes of company officers—the officers and men do not get to know and depend upon each other as in other arms of the service. The field and staff officers, and the company officers and men in a district, can not have the same feeling for and interest in each other as when all belong to the same regiment and expect to remain together and share whatever of good or bad fortune that comes to it. Restlessness and desire for change and excitement leads the average man to enlist. The same feeling, with the addition of a liking for his officers and comrades, causes him to reenlist.

In many of the artillery districts, I think it would be possible to quarter the companies at one or two central points where suitable barracks and quarters could be erected. The officers and men would be more comfortably quartered, have better opportunities for instruction, and with more social life and amusements should be more contented—the batteries being cared for by detachments and the troops going into camp near them for gun drill and target practice at proper times. With increase of pay, when justified by greater skill or higher education, a more permanent assignment of company officers, better quarters in more pleasant locations, a prospect of change of station for the organization—not the individual—at reasonable periods, I think service in the Coast Artillery would be more attractive and the men more contented.

Very respectfully,

J. F. WADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

THE MILITARY SECRETARY,
War Department.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST,
Governors Island, New York, August 31, 1905.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith the following annual report of the Department of the East for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1905:

The office of adjutant-general, and later military secretary, of the department has been filled by Maj. Albert Todd, Artillery Corps, and Col. H. O. S. Heistand, both able and efficient officers, and their signal fidelity has placed me under great obligations to them.

June 30, 1905, the department returns showed an aggregate strength of personnel of 13,633, composed as follows: Engineer Corps, engineers' band and 4 companies Second Battalion; Signal Corps, 2 companies (B and G); cavalry, headquarters, band, and Second Squadron of the Thirteenth; headquarters and 12 troops Fifteenth; Field Artillery, Third, Fourth, Eleventh, Twenty-third, and Twenty-seventh batteries; bands, Artillery Corps, Second, Fourth, Fifth, Seventh, and Tenth; Coast Artillery, 71 companies; Infantry, 4 companies (Third Battalion) of the First Infantry, headquarters and 12 companies Fifth Infantry, headquarters and 10 companies Eighth Infantry, headquarters and 12 companies Twenty-third Infantry, Porto Rico Provisional Regiment of Infantry (headquarters, band, and 8 companies); Staff Corps, 53 officers, 190 enlisted men; Hospital Corps, 456 enlisted men.

As the monthly returns give a record of the movements of troops, it is not regarded as necessary to state them here.

The maneuvers which were held at Manassas last September, and the joint army and navy exercises which took place in the Chesapeake Bay and Potomac River during May and June of this year, are the subjects of special reports, and are therefore not treated here further than to say that the benefits the troops of this department derived from them were very great, and the experiences of the troops are still a favorite topic of discussion of officers and men. It is the desire and hope of almost everyone in the department that each year will see these exercises repeated on an increasing scale.

THE JUDGE-ADVOCATE'S DEPARTMENT.

The duties of judge-advocate of the department have been performed by Capt. Delamere Skerrett, Artillery Corps, and Lieut. Col. H. C. Carbaugh, both officers of high attainments and particularly well fitted for the duties assigned to them.

The judge-advocate reports that 7 officers have been tried by general court-martial, 3 of whom were acquitted. There were 1,217 trials

of enlisted men and 5 of general prisoners, of which trials 51 were acquittals. The articles of war under which these trials were had are:

	Offenses.		Offenses.
Article 17-----	77	Article 39-----	64
Article 20-----	8	Article 40-----	15
Article 21-----	42	Article 47-----	502
Article 32-----	283	Article 51-----	2
Article 33-----	48	Article 60-----	28
Article 38-----	43	Article 62-----	568

Eighty-seven trials of enlisted men were held by garrison court-martial, of which 17 were acquittals. The offenses committed are as follows:

	Offenses.		Offenses.
Article 75-----	1	Article 35-----	3
Article 32-----	12	Article 62-----	57

By summary court-martial there were 12,402 trials of enlisted men, of which 437 were acquittals. The offenses committed are as follows:

	Offenses.		Offenses.
Article 17-----	153	Article 38-----	447
Article 32-----	5,220	Article 40-----	18
Article 33-----	3,001	Article 62-----	6,823

It is my belief that fully 75 per cent of these trials were due to the use of bad liquor, dispensed to our soldiers by persons who conduct dens of vice in the vicinity of military posts. These depraved creatures and lewd women use every device in their power to induce the soldiers to patronize their brothels, where those who yield to temptations are frequently drugged and robbed. It is distressing that the prosperity of the keepers of vile resorts is due to the activity of good and worthy though misguided citizens, who have succeeded in abolishing the canteen in the Army. With the establishment of the canteen, which was the soldiers' club, the influence of these demoralizing resorts, near army posts, would be greatly reduced and many of them would soon disappear.

The total number of desertions reported for the year was 1,492, or 12.15 per cent of the average enlisted strength of the department; but as quite a number of these deserters have been tried and convicted of absence without leave, and in other cases the charge of desertion has been removed under Army Regulations, 130, on account of having been erroneously made, the actual number of desertions is reduced to about 10 per cent of the average enlisted strength of the command. If considered by the arms of the service, the percentages of desertion would be: Cavalry, 20 per cent; artillery, 11 per cent; infantry, 8 per cent of the enlisted strength.

At the end of June, 1905, there were 503 general prisoners in confinement in the department, and during the year about 500 general prisoners were released.

The judge-advocate, in commenting upon desertions, makes the following statement:

A large number of these men are not vicious by nature. Many of them are young and inexperienced, and it would seem to me that they should be given a chance to honorably serve a subsequent enlistment. Section 2, act of Congress, August 1, 1904 (Stat. L., vol. 287, p. 216), states that "No soldier shall be again reenlisted in the Army whose service during the last preceding term of enlistment has not been honest and faithful."

I see no reason why the United States should be restricted in its enlistments by statutes of this nature, and recommend that effort be made for its repeal and that regulations provide for reenlistment in these cases on the approval of the department commander where the sentences were served.

I recommend that prison discipline, in addition to hard labor, shall include from two to four hours of military exercises on 365 days per year, for the following ends: (1) That all who have found military exercises irksome, and go wrong in their conduct from that motive, shall not escape such exercises; (2) that the end of the period of confinement shall find the prisoner in a proper condition of instruction to at once assume military duties, should he be allowed to reenlist.

If such exercises take the form of military drill, wooden sabers and guns could be provided and used.

These ideas of the judge-advocate are, I believe, worthy of due consideration. Deserters who have committed their offenses because of youthful ignorance, and who wish to reenlist and secure an honorable discharge after good service to their country, might well be allowed to do so. I am led to this conclusion by my observation of those confined in the large military prison, Castle William.

Imprisonment under military control is regarded by the average citizen of the United States with distrust, and as being unnecessary. I deem it important that military imprisonment should be more highly reformatory in its nature than is punishment in civil prisons, so that the term of military correction shall leave the individual actually improved both mentally and physically.

During the past year the lack of uniformity of sentence for desertion has been a serious matter, and it has been difficult, in fact impossible, to keep the punishments on anything like a uniform scale. Courts vary in their sentences from no period of confinement to the maximum limit, and the records often fail to show anything to warrant the wide difference in the length of the period of confinement. In many cases the records have shown a greater punishment of young soldiers for desertion by one court than older soldiers received in another court.

The United States now offers a reward for the return of deserters, and inadequate sentences counteract the effect of the reward in deterring the commission of the offense. Varying degrees of punishment also prevent careful consideration of mitigating circumstances, so as to secure uniformity and adequate punishment of the crime.

I recommend that the executive authority to establish limit of punishment be amended so as to permit there being prescribed as the minimum punishment for desertion that which is now the maximum. This would enable the reviewing authority to mitigate the sentence with a public statement of the reasons therefor, and thus avoid impairing discipline by unexplained leniency and lack of uniformity.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

Col. John W. Pullman, assistant quartermaster-general, has been chief quartermaster of the Department of the East during the past fiscal year, and has administered the office with consummate ability and in a most admirable manner.

The fuel, forage, and straw required for the posts and depots within the department were purchased and supplied under contracts made by the chief quartermaster of the department, excepting anthra-

cite and blacksmith's coal, and forage and straw for the posts in the district of Porto Rico, which were supplied from purchases made by the depot quartermaster, New York City.

While the division inspectors have found fault, from time to time, with the quality of the hay and straw, and sometimes with the oats supplied the various posts, especially those in the northeastern section of the department, investigation has proven that the forage delivered at these posts was as good as produced in that section of the country, and the best on the market, and these supplies were as near the specification of the contracts as could be purchased.

The total number of contracts made by the Quartermaster's Department was 456, aggregating \$936,680.30, this not including the items of printing and some items for personal services rendered under the direction of local quartermasters, the exact amounts of which are not known at these headquarters. The amount expended at these headquarters and in Porto Rico for printing is \$8,469.70.

The total known expenditures made by the Quartermaster's Department in the Department of the East amount to \$2,449,973.60, of which amount \$2,065,893.45 was expended by the different constructing quartermasters under the direction of the Quartermaster-General, leaving expended by the chief quartermaster of this department and local quartermasters at the different posts the sum of \$384,080.15, exclusive of some amounts expended for personal services at the different posts.

The clothing and equipage, kitchen utensils, tableware, and quartermaster stores required at the several posts were supplied from depots of the Quartermaster's Department or purchased at the nearest and best points upon regular estimates and special requisitions. The number of such requisitions during the fiscal year was 5,127.

The horses required for the several batteries of field artillery and troops of cavalry serving in the department, as well as draft horses and mules required, were supplied from the quartermaster's depots and by purchases made under the direction of the Quartermaster-General.

The following is a summary of the expenditures of the Quartermaster's Department, aggregating the sum stated above, for construction of buildings and other work, such as construction of roads and walks, water and sewerage systems, etc., at the various posts:

Fort Adams	\$10, 104. 14	Fort Knox	\$10. 00
Allegheny Arsenal	1, 565. 74	Madison Barracks	263, 833. 63
Fort Armistead	1, 029. 50	Fort Mansfield	2, 224. 55
Fort Andrews	282, 253. 52	Fort McHenry	2, 483. 44
Fort Banks	41, 813. 61	Fort McKinley	33, 061. 60
Fort Carroll	854. 27	Fort Monroe	12, 641. 84
Fort Constitution	9, 596. 09	Fort Michie	37, 531. 70
Fort DuPont	38, 308. 57	Fort Mott	200, 182. 81
Fort Ethan Allen	135, 176. 61	Fort Myer	\$31, 109. 44
Governors Island	45, 316. 64	Signal Corps Post, Fort	
Fort Greble	9, 720. 90	Myer	65. 75
Fort Hamilton	11, 912. 67	Fort Niagara	11, 548. 43
Fort Hancock	24, 259. 07	Fort Ontario	124, 807. 51
Henry Barracks	4, 476. 28	Plattsburg Barracks	28, 960. 53
Fort Heath, Mass.	2, 394. 40	Fort Porter	5, 224. 09
Fort Howard	133, 064. 00	Fort Popham	134. 95
Fort Hunt	11, 883. 00	Fort Preble	5, 124. 46
Fort Independence	127. 75	Fort Revere	2, 856. 21
Fort Jay	23, 230. 22	Fort Rodman	32, 288. 41

Fort Schuyler	\$10,835.60	Fort Trumbull	\$2,012.50
Fort Smallwood	6,515.50	Fort Wadsworth	23,081.83
Post of San Juan	2,500.00	Fort Warren	27,503.67
Fort Standish	432.00	Washington Barracks	2,001.60
Fort Slocum	81,163.70	Fort Washington	91,870.69
Fort Strong	99,480.57	Fort Williams	15,964.15
Fort Totten	318,118.39	Fort Wood	142,505.08
Fort Terry	21,415.92	Fort H. G. Wright	8,396.43

Besides the above-mentioned expenditures the building of the post at Fort Levett has been authorized; also quite a number of buildings at Fort McKinley and some grading around the hospital at Fort Williams. The amount that this work will cost is as yet unknown to me.

The disbursements and transfers of funds made by the chief quartermaster's office are as follows:

Vouchers paid (1,700)	\$555,229.88
Transfers of funds (775)	1,111,546.02
Total	1,666,775.90

The total expenses pertaining to the joint army and navy exercises in this department during May and June, as far as they pertain to disbursements made by the chief quartermaster and local quartermasters, are as follows:

Army transportation	\$10,366.64
Regular supplies	4,197.91
Barracks and quarters	2,068.67
Incidental expenses	238.25
Hospitals, 1905	138.00
Total	17,009.47

The above figures do not include sums spent by the different quartermaster depots not under my jurisdiction and which sums are unknown to me.

In my inspections of the various posts I found the barracks and quarters at most of them everything to be desired and a great credit to the Government, the quarters of the officers being comfortable, dignified, and in every way pleasing, while the barracks of the men are spacious and elegant. Our soldiers are now housed and provided with greater comforts of sanitation, cleanliness, and convenience for the decencies of life than are any other troops in the world. In fact, it is only the well-to-do citizen in civil life who has as comfortable and respectable surroundings as has the United States soldier. This statement, however, does not apply to the garrisons in three of the older and more important posts in the department, namely, Forts Constitution, Hamilton, and Schuyler, where the barracks and quarters are dilapidated old rattletraps, uncomfortable, and, I believe, unsanitary in every way. They are a discredit to the Government and an eyesore in the community in which they are located. The buildings can not be repaired except by expenditures far in excess of their value, and I earnestly recommend that these three posts be rebuilt.

I observed during my inspections of the department that the plaster with which the ceilings of most of the buildings are finished is broken, and patches have fallen in many places. The repair of these ceilings is, in the aggregate, a large item of expense for renew-

als, which are frequently necessary. These breaks constantly occur, due, it is thought, to the tremor of the buildings occasioned by the tread of soldiers on the floors overhead, and frequently from local causes, such as the passing of trains and street traffic, where the jarring produces a gradual loosening of the plaster until it falls. This could be avoided in new buildings by the construction of steel ceilings in the basements and underneath each sleeping floor. I would also recommend that in repairing the ceilings of old buildings plaster be not used, but new ceilings be made of steel.

I also observed that the electric fixtures in many barracks were placed so low that the soldiers frequently struck them in passing with their guns, causing more or less damage and necessitating repairs. These electric lights should be elevated close to the ceilings and protected with globe screens.

ARTILLERY DISTRICT HARBOR-BOAT SERVICE.

My observation is that we need more boats in the harbors of our coast artillery districts. The district and post commanders in all the artillery districts are unable to meet the necessary demands with the meager water accommodations supplied. Often only one boat is available for all the technical service pertaining to the necessary artillery target practice and work attending, together with the inter-post communication and supply of garrisons, and, as a result, one or the other of these works has to be abandoned, or all only partially performed.

The quartermaster's boats which are furnished are most satisfactory. They are skillfully handled and worked to the limit, but there are not enough of them. It is well known that the Quartermaster-General has done, and is doing, all in his power to meet the many demands coming to him in this line, and has accomplished wonders with the means available; but he is hampered, and urgent calls are unanswered for lack of funds. A most vital and important arm of the service—the Coast Artillery—is being retarded in needed progressive development and in professional finish, so essential to the safeguarding of the country along the coast line, for lack of water transportation; consequently I believe that too much effort can not be made to call attention of Congress to this matter and to invoke its aid for more liberal appropriations that the harbor service pertaining to our artillery districts and sea posts may be made sufficient to enable us to place them in a condition of the utmost efficiency and deadly defensive value.

A great sea-coast armament becomes valueless unless made a surely destructive agent in every detail, and the conscientious labor of our artillery experts is lost unless the full means to accomplish what they know to be essential is liberally supplied.

This supply of much-needed transportation, while appearing to the outsider as unimportant, is emphatically a most serious necessity, if thorough preparedness is to be attained. I hope something may soon be done to secure ample water transportation.

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT.

The office of the chief commissary has been in charge of Lieut. Col. E. E. Dravo, Subsistence Department, who has executed his duties

with perfect satisfaction. The care with which this department has been administered is shown by the remarkably small loss through the condemnation of stores, it amounting to but \$9.88 per post for the entire fiscal year. Colonel Dravo's report is so short and concise that I quote it herewith:

I have the honor to make the following report of subsistence affairs in this department during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1905.

Supplies.—The usual method of supplying posts has been followed throughout the year. Complaints either of the quality of articles received or of the condition in which they were received at the posts have been extremely rare, and whenever the fault lay with the Subsistence Department it was immediately remedied.

Rations.—The average cost of the ration of the troops in this department, as shown by the semiannual reports from the commissaries at the various posts, is 17.4565 cents. Owing to the different prices of fresh beef and vegetables at the various posts, the cost of the ration differs at almost every post, varying from the lowest, 15.5 cents, at Fort Meyer, to the highest, 22.7 cents at Henry Barracks, P. R.

Fresh beef.—The method of annual contract for fresh beef at posts was followed during the year. The average price of the beef at the 46 posts in the department was 7.5652 cents per pound. This is a reduction of 0.259 cent in the average price ruling during the previous fiscal year. The beef furnished has given very general satisfaction throughout the department.

Fresh vegetables.—Forty-one of the 46 posts in the department are supplied with the fresh vegetable portion of the ration by purchase at the post under monthly advertisement. This method, in addition to furnishing a market for the local productions, has proven much more satisfactory and economical than the former method of semiannual contracts. Five of the posts are still supplied with this item by semiannual contract, owing to the fact that local conditions will not admit of the method of monthly purchases.

Losses.—The total loss to the Government through the condemnation of stores in the department during the year was \$454.67, or an average loss per post during the year of but \$9.88. The loss to the Government through wastage on stores issued and sold was \$2,931.88. At the same time there was during the year a gain in these various items to the amount of \$900.42, leaving the net loss to the Government through "wastage" of \$2,031.46. This last item represents a little less than one-quarter of 1 per cent of the money value of the rations issued during the year.

Refrigerators.—Of the 46 posts in the department, 35 are supplied with refrigerators for the better preservation of some perishable articles of subsistence stores. The cost of the ice during the year for use in these refrigerators was \$2,411.67; this being an average cost of 22 cents per man per year; a gain of 7 cents per man over last year for the garrison thus supplied. That the care of these refrigerators has improved through the experience gained in the previous (first) year of their use is shown by the fact that the ice consumed during this fiscal year cost but \$2,411.67, while during the previous year it cost \$3,266.39. This is a reduction in the cost of \$854.72 in spite of the fact that five more posts were provided with refrigerators during this year than were so supplied during the previous year.

I again wish to thank the commissaries and commissary sergeants at the various posts for their careful attention to duties, as shown by their economical administration of the affairs.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

During the past fiscal year the office of chief surgeon of the department has been filled by Maj. John L. Phillips, from June 2 to August 31, 1904, and from November 16, 1904, to May 11, 1905. Col. Valery Havard, assistant surgeon-general, has been on duty from August 31 to the close of the fiscal year, except during the period from November 16, 1904, to May 11, 1905, when he was absent on detached duty as medical military attaché with the Russian

army in Manchuria. The administration of the Medical Department has been most successful and satisfactory; and with few exceptions, all the medical officers and hospital corps men have performed their duties well.

The mean strength of the department for the year, as shown by the reports of sick and wounded, was: Officers, 617; enlisted men, 12,797; total, 13,414.

The total admissions to sick report during the year, for illness contracted in line of duty, were 9,250; not in line of duty, 3,097; injuries in line of duty, 3,175; not in line of duty, 359; aggregate for all causes, 15,881, giving a rate of 1,183.91 per thousand mean strength. The ration for the year ending June 30, 1904, was 1,304.64 per thousand.

As a result of the diseases, wounds, and injuries as indicated above, the Government sustained a loss of 184,167 days' service, an average of 13.73 days for each officer and soldier, or 3.76 per cent of mean strength constantly noneffective, as compared with 4.08 per cent for the year ending June 30, 1904.

Fifty-six deaths occurred during the year, from the following causes: Diseases, 30; accidental injuries, 18; accidental poisoning, 5; suicides, 2; homicides, 1. The chief causes of death were alcoholism, gunshot wounds, and drowning, 5 deaths having occurred through each of the above-mentioned causes during the fiscal year.

Of those reported as having died of disease, 2 were commissioned officers; 1 other commissioned officer was accidentally drowned; 37 of the deaths reported were on account of disease, wounds, and injuries incurred in the line of duty, and 19 on account of disease and injuries not incident to the service.

The ratio of diseases to the command was 4.17 per thousand mean strength, as compared with 3.69 per thousand for the year ending June 30, 1904. During the past fiscal year 215 enlisted men were discharged for disabilities, as compared to 269 discharged during the previous year, a difference of 54 in favor of this year. Of these discharges during 1905, 72 were for diseases and injuries incurred in the service and in line of duty; 96 for diseases and injuries that existed before enlistment; 45 for diseases and injuries incurred in the service but not in line of duty; and 2 for disabilities partly in line of duty and partly not.

A large majority of the 96 men above reported as having been discharged for disabilities existing prior to enlistment should have been rejected by the recruiting officers upon examination for enlistment.

In considering the various posts it is found that the per cent of mean strength constantly noneffective was greatest at the following: Washington Barracks, 6.64 per cent; Fort Myer, 6.21 per cent; Fort Adams, 6.20 per cent; Allegheny Arsenal, 5.49 per cent; post of San Juan, P. R., 5.18 per cent. The posts showing the smallest per cent constantly noneffective were: Fort Niagara, 1.43 per cent; Madison Barracks, 1.61 per cent. In the whole department there were constantly noneffective 3.76 per cent.

Of infectious diseases among enlisted men typhoid fever was the most serious and the only one causing deaths.

There has been no case of scarlet fever among enlisted men of the

department, and only one case of diphtheria. Outbreaks of measles occurred at Forts Adams, Terry, and Monroe, but without mortality.

During the past year members of the Hospital Corps serving in the department have been instructed in accordance with the "Scheme for instruction for detachments of Hospital Corps," recommended by a board of medical officers, and promulgated by the Surgeon-General. The reports of instruction indicate that the instruction outlined has been carefully and systematically carried out. One hour each Monday throughout the year was devoted to Hospital Corps drill and field work.

During the year 27 civilians were enlisted for the Hospital Corps, and 286 men transferred to it from the line; from the latter class, 80 were sent to Company A, Hospital Corps, Washington Barracks, D. C.

Of the 3,194 civilians attached to posts in the department, 1,190 were males, 1,374 females, and 1,350 children; among them, 108 births and 32 deaths were reported. Three hundred and seventy-six adult males were admitted to the different hospitals during the year, under the provisions of paragraphs 1486 and 1487, Army Regulations.

The sanitary reports from the posts in the department state that their sanitary condition is, as a rule, very good.

At Fort Du Pont and Fort Mott the drainage and sewerage were unsatisfactory on account of the low and flat sites occupied by these posts. At Fort Mott the water contains so much iron as to be very objectionable, but this will soon be remedied by the use of a distilling plant recently received.

The guardhouse at Fort Greble has been repeatedly reported by the surgeon as inadequate in size. Recommendation was made by the chief surgeon, June 14, 1905, that proper steps be taken to secure additional accommodations for this building.

Additions to hospitals were authorized during the year as follows: Fort Ethan Allen, \$18,293; Fort Wadsworth, \$8,937. The sum of \$28,561.29 was allotted for repairs to hospitals, and the sum of \$6,392.41 for repairs and additions to hospital stewards' quarters during the year. New hospitals should be built at Forts Jay, Foster, and Rodman.

The department has been supplied abundantly with medical and hospital stores of good quality.

PAY DEPARTMENT.

The chief paymaster of the department, Col. C. C. Sniffen, has conducted his department in a most satisfactory manner, and all payments have been promptly made. He has submitted a report for the fiscal year 1905, of which the following is an exhibit:

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand July 1, 1904	\$305, 322. 32
Receipts of department for fiscal year ending June 30, 1905 from United States Treasury.....	6, 041, 500. 00
Army paymasters' collections	134, 131. 93
Soldiers' deposits	167, 544. 79
Transfers from paymasters outside Department of the East to supply deficiencies in appropriations	54, 051. 66
	<hr/>
	\$6, 702, 550. 70

DISBURSEMENTS.

Disbursed on vouchers monthly pay to officers and men, final statements of discharged men, mileage to officers, repayment of soldiers' deposits, reimbursement to Quartermaster's Department for furnished transportation, reimbursement to Subsistence Department for credit sales to officers and men, reimbursement to post exchange, fees to civilian witnesses, and miscellaneous	\$5, 996, 577. 42
Army paymasters' collections deposited with the Treasurer of the United States	135, 847. 47
Transfers to paymasters outside Department of the East to supply deficiencies of appropriations	66, 327. 06
Surplus appropriations deposited with the Treasurer of the United States	48, 590. 82
	<hr/>
	\$6, 247, 342. 77
Balance in hands of paymasters June 30, 1905	455, 207. 93
	<hr/>
	6, 702, 550. 70

I fully indorse the recommendation of the chief paymaster as to commutation of quarters, which appeared in the annual report of Maj. Gen. Henry C. Corbin, for the last fiscal year.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

The office of the chief ordnance officer of the department has been administered by Col. John E. Greer, whose duties as the chief ordnance officer have been performed most thoroughly; while, at the same time, Colonel Greer has performed the duties of commanding officer, New York Arsenal, armament officer of the central armament district, and inspector of ordnance, all of which duties pertain in a more or less degree to the Department of the East, and all have been executed in a most satisfactory manner.

Colonel Greer's report is short, and yet it gives all the details of his department, so I quote it in full:

I have the honor to report that during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1905, the ordnance supplies furnished the troops and posts in this department have been, as a rule, adequate and of a quality with respect to which there has been little complaint. An exception to the latter statement is the stuffed russet leather equipments which have been found to be too fully saturated with the dressing. In the future others of a slightly lighter color and materially less stuffing will be issued.

The system of issuing supplies, except for seacoast armament, on the approval of the department commander or by the ordnance officer of the department, which has practically placed the New York Arsenal, the Watervliet Arsenal, the Frankford Arsenal, and the Springfield Armory under control of the department commander so far as supplying the needs of his department is concerned, has worked very satisfactorily and has avoided the former long delays necessarily resulting when all requisitions were acted upon at the War Department.

The work of this office is mainly confined to the examination and action required in case of requisitions, of reviewing proceedings of surveying officers in case of property lost, damaged, or destroyed in the department, and the examination of inventory and inspection reports acted upon by inspectors throughout the department.

The records of this office show that 1,224 requisitions, 207 reports of surveys of property, and 179 inventory and inspection reports have been acted upon during the fiscal year.

The action to be taken by this office on reports of surveying officers is frequently most questionable, as such reports do not usually contain sufficient in-

formation to enable it to draw a distinct line between justice to the Government and the individual. The opinion of the surveying officer, while a guide, is not necessarily conclusive. It is thought that the findings should be based on more complete evidence in nearly all cases.

Much information has been asked for and furnished during the year.

SEACOAST ARMAMENT.

The seacoast armament throughout the department is in good condition. It is maintained by the armament officers of the Northern, Central, and Sandy Hook armament districts. The latter comprises simply the post of Fort Hancock, contiguous to which, and available for the repair of its armament, is the machine shop of the ordnance proving ground. Necessary repairs and modifications of guns and carriages suggested by experience in their use occasionally put them out of commission, but usually for limited periods only. The greater complexity of the armament, as compared with that of a few years ago, necessitates much care and attention on the part of all officers having any part of it in their charge. The use and care of this armament requires a much higher order of ability in officers and men than was formerly necessary.

SURVEY REPORTS.

Under the present system of survey reports the evidence is frequently so meager or so merely formal as to fail to give me or the chief ordnance officer, who are the reviewing officers, the necessary information for intelligent action. These reports should not be regarded as simply a means of relieving an officer from responsibility, but of protecting the Government as well. Great care should be exercised by survey officers in reaching their findings, that evidence which would not be accepted as convincing in the case of an enlisted man should not be accepted in the case of an officer. It is rare that an officer is held responsible for the loss of property under his charge.

THE SIGNAL CORPS.

The different officers of the Signal Corps who have performed the duties of chief signal officer of the department during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1905, are Capt. George C. Burnell, May 9 to September 2, 1904, and again from October 11 to December 15, 1904; Col. James Allen, September 27 to October 10, 1904, and Lieut. Col. George P. Scriven, from December 15, 1904, to the end of the fiscal year.

The work of the Signal Corps is so technical that I have not attempted to direct it, but have followed it as thoroughly as possible. The office is well organized, and has most experienced and competent heads for each section. The work has been most interesting to me and perfectly satisfactory.

In accordance with the present policy of the Chief Signal Officer of the Army, the work of the Signal Corps in this department has greatly increased, and it is presumed that the growth will continue, not only in connection with routine work, but also in connection with the establishment and maintenance of fire-control systems, electric lines of communication, and supply of apparatus and material.

During the year the number of cables laid has increased, wireless telegraph stations have been established temporarily or reestablished and, at the date of forwarding this report, are in operation at Forts Hancock, Wadsworth, Totten, Schuyler, and Slocum. All of these forts, except Fort Schuyler, are provided with apparatus of a more or less temporary character and equipped with a new portable type of instrument designed to work over short ranges. At Forts Hancock and Wadsworth permanent staffs are erected and equipped, as well as at Fort Schuyler, and a large sending station and staff, it is expected, will soon be erected at Fort Wood. A permanent wireless station is also in operation at Fort H. G. Wright. At Fort Monroe a system of fire-control installation has been installed, largely permanent in character, but with the addition of certain temporary features. The artillery districts of Baltimore and the Potomac have been provided with similar installations, and in the artillery district of the Delaware a temporary installation is now nearly completed. Temporary installations have been placed at Forts Hamilton and Wadsworth for use during the season of drills. At Fort Totten a permanent installation has been practically completed, although some changes are still to be made. Completed plans for the permanent installation of a system of communication for fire control and direction for Forts Hamilton, Wadsworth, Hancock, in the southern artillery district of New York; Forts Schuyler and Slocum, in the eastern artillery district of New York, and for the artillery districts of Portland and Boston have, at the date of forwarding this report, been received by the chief signal officer of the department. These plans having been approved by the Chief of Artillery, the Signal Corps is ready to proceed with the work of permanent installation in these districts as soon as the means are provided and auxiliary work is finished. Permanent work is already begun at Forts Hamilton and Wadsworth. The maintenance of temporary installations is all that has been attempted in the New London and Narragansett artillery districts.

Target ranges have been supplied with cables and to some extent with other material. A cable boat has been equipped and placed in operation, and a large amount of supplies have been purchased and shipped, not only to posts in the department, but elsewhere throughout the country, to the Philippines and Alaska. Approximately, 577 miles of cable have been purchased, about 224 miles of which were shipped to Alaska. It is presumed that during the coming year purchases will be increased. It may be here remarked that the permanent fire control installation at Fort Monroe, temporary and permanent work in the artillery districts of Baltimore, Delaware, and Chesapeake and Potomac, although in this department, were installed under the direction of the Chief Signal Officer of the Army at Washington. Their efficiency was tested during the joint army and navy exercises held in June last.

The part taken by the Signal Corps in the maneuvers at Manassas last fall, and in the combined army and navy exercises in the Chesapeake Bay and Potomac River, was perfectly satisfactory and deserving of commendation.

The post of Fort Wood, having been turned over to the Signal Corps, has been occupied as a post and school during the fiscal year. The buildings are most of them completed. Telephone and tele-

graph service was established during the latter part of the fiscal year 1904. A cable was laid to the Jersey shore at Black Tom Point. This cable connects with the New York and New Jersey Telephone Company, Jersey City Exchange, and with the Western Union Telegraph office. Both services were begun in the early part of July, 1904. A local telephone has been established at Black Tom Point wharf, communicating only with the post telephone system. Space on that wharf has been secured by the Quartermaster's Department to be used for storing signal corps cables.

The post of Fort Wood, Bedloes Island, N. Y., is at present supplied with water by the Governors Island steamer *Col. Wikoff*. It is intended soon to supply water through a pipe from Jersey City, and as soon as that is done the *Wikoff* will be taken off from this duty.

It seems proper to say here that it is very necessary for the signal corps officers at that station to have some means of transportation, and I recommend that a new boat be given to this department in place of the *Wikoff*, which is nearly worthless for any service other than that in which she is now engaged, in supplying water to Bedloes Island.

In order to complete Fort Wood and make it a proper place for the purpose for which it is used, namely, a school of instruction, it is recommended that the following additional buildings be constructed at that post: A barrack building, to accommodate 150 men; field officers' quarters, and an administration building, to be of sufficient size to adequately provide for offices, library, schoolrooms, electric testing room, and dark room for photographic work.

The course of instruction is given in accordance with the scheme approved by the Chief Signal Officer of the Army, General Greely. General subjects are taught every enlisted man coming to Fort Wood who remains a sufficient time. Every opportunity is afforded these men to become thoroughly posted in such special subjects as they show themselves capable of learning, while to those showing unusual aptitude advanced instruction is given. The men undergoing instruction are tested monthly and arranged in classes according to advancement. A card record of their advancement and qualifications before and after enlistment is kept.

I have noted that the high technical training these men of the Signal Corps receive, not only at Fort Wood, but in connection with electrical work of fire control installation, and in connection with wireless telegraphy and the cable boat, laying and repairing cables and other duties, renders them so valuable that they are offered positions in civil life, with inducements so great that a large number of the younger men go out of the service on the expiration of their terms of enlistment. While this is of general benefit to the country, it makes it very difficult to keep the personnel of the Signal Corps up to its standard, unless the Government offers as satisfactory pay to these trained men as do corporations.

The lighter *Margaret*, purchased by the United States May 6, 1904, was converted into a cable boat for use on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts for repairing, recovering, and laying United States coast cables; to be maintained by the Quartermaster's Department and operated by the Signal Corps, and its name changed to *Cyrus W. Field*. The following is a brief statement of the operations of this

vessel since it became available for signal corps work: October 16, 1904, about that date, the *Field* proceeded to Bayonne, N. J., to procure cable for repair work in the artillery district of New London, and with the exception of two days, which were spent in repairing the cable between Fort Slocum and New Rochelle, the remainder of the month was consumed in repairing the cable in the artillery district of New London. Great difficulty was experienced in repairing these cables, owing to the strong tide and heavy wind in almost every case. During November the *Field* was in the harbor of New York engaged in laying and repairing cable, during which time a 25-pair paper-insulated cable between Forts Wadsworth and Hamilton was laid, a 7-conductor cable at Fort Hamilton was reanchored, and two 20-pair cables connecting Forts Totten and Schuyler laid. In December the *Field* was working in the artillery district of the Delaware. In January, February, March, April, and the early part of May she spent practically all of her time in the artillery districts of the Chesapeake, Baltimore, and the Potomac engaged in cable work, preparatory to the army and navy exercises, and returned to New York on the 11th of May. She was worked in New York Harbor and in the artillery districts of New London and Portland until the 28th of June.

This matter is brought out in detail here for the purpose of showing how inadequate one boat is for all duties on the Atlantic coast. There is more than enough work for two boats, one of which should be much stronger and larger and more capable of buffeting the heavy seas than is the *Field*. I strongly recommend that this matter receive the attention of the War Department, and that, if possible, an additional boat be supplied.

The commanding officer of the *Field* reports that the condition of recovered cables emphasizes the futility of attempting to handle submarine cables with improvised boats and with a force without training. A list of cables recovered and found to be unserviceable and in need of much repair, due to improper laying and handling, accentuates the uselessness of handling cables unless provided with the best appliances and with a well-trained personnel. Such boats and personnel can not always be hired when needed, and it is therefore necessary to have the personnel trained specially for this business.

MILITARY TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH LINES.

There is but one military telegraph line in this department, that between Forts Washington, Hunt, and Myer, connecting with Washington, D. C., and this has given much trouble and little satisfaction during the past year. It has been the subject of consideration at these headquarters. There is apparently no way of putting it in good order as a telephone line, excepting by adopting the recommendation of Mr. Townsend Wolcott, electrical engineer, who says that the present line can be made to work satisfactorily only by equipping it with twisted pair wires, costing about \$85 per mile; or by adopting the proposal of the chief signal officer of the department, which is that the Quartermaster's Department make a contract with the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company for telephone service for these posts. This will necessarily be exchange service.

The enlisted men of the Signal Corps of this department have

been trained in various methods of visual signaling, and were exercised in such work during the army and navy exercises.

The present post telephone system in this department and the exchange service are not in a satisfactory state, due not only to the fact that recent orders require many changes to be made in the location and number of telephones and lines of communication, which have not yet been completed, but also to the further fact that the systems installed at posts and outside service are not under the control of any one of the staff departments.

I therefore respectfully recommend that the General Staff take up this matter, with a view of placing the entire telephone service, as well as the maintenance of the power and light cables, under the control of one of the staff departments.

COAST ARTILLERY.

The preponderance of Coast Artillery in this department is very great, and I have given much time to the needs of that arm of the service. I submit the following comments:

Personnel.—The crying need of the Coast Artillery is for officers and men. This has been presented most emphatically by my predecessors, and I can only give my earnest approval of their recommendations.

There are now on duty in this department 253 officers of the Coast Artillery and 6,531 artillerymen. One relief for the artillery material now installed would require about 15,000 enlisted men. Major-General Chaffee, in his annual report as commanding general of this department, stated:

The duties imposed upon the Coast Artillery in this department are very onerous, so great indeed as to require that attention be invited to the necessity of an increase in its strength, as a measure of relief and to meet fairly new development of defenses made from year to year.

Major-General Corbin stated in his annual report from this department last year:

The time has now come when legislation is again needed for the Coast Artillery. This legislation should cover both increase of numerical strength and pay, and also change of organization.

The conditions then reported have become more acute. The authorized numbers of artillerymen are not only inadequate, but the duties imposed are so onerous as to cause an exodus of enlisted men from the artillery, some of them enlisting in the other arms of the service, where they get the same or better rates of pay for less difficult work.

During the recent joint army and navy exercises in the artillery districts of the Potomac, Baltimore, and the Chesapeake, it was necessary to draw artillery troops from as far north as Boston and from as far south as Key West in order to have a sufficient force to man these three districts on the basis of a single relief. The companies ordered there were found to be so far short of their authorized numbers, by reason of men leaving the Coast Artillery and because of a disinclination of recruits to enlist in this arm of the service, that even on the single-relief basis the garrisons were short several hundred men.

Coast Artillery troops, to be efficient, require careful instruction of such nature that a long period is required to impart it. In time of war with a maritime power these soldiers will be needed to defend the coast line immediately on the commencement of hostilities. There is no time available then to train coast artillerymen. It is absolutely necessary, therefore, that all coast artillerymen shall have been trained before hostilities begin.

Since at best it will not be possible to provide regular coast artillerymen in sufficient numbers to man fully all the elements of coast defense in time of war, and since it will not be possible to improvise skilled artillerymen at the outbreak of war, it is important that every encouragement be extended to the organized militia to take up the study and practice of some of the duties connected with coast artillery work. The First Regiment of Heavy Artillery of the Massachusetts Volunteer Militia, the coast artillery companies of the Connecticut National Guard, and the Thirteenth Regiment New York National Guard have been practicing coast artillery work for several years with excellent results. The work of the Massachusetts artillerymen at Fort Rodman, Mass., and of the Connecticut and New York organizations at Fort Terry, N. Y., during the year have earned the favorable reports of the regular officers associated with them.

Present conditions make clear the necessity of increasing the pay of certain classes of coast artillerymen in order to induce enlistment for that arm. Men in charge of electric material, of the power, light, and communication divisions, those who operate the position finders, use the platting boards, gunners, range keepers, etc., must be given more pay in order, in the first place, that recruits of the proper degree of intelligence can be secured, and in the second place to insure that they remain in the service after having been trained.

At present the training which men receive in the coast artillery service as electricians and machinists fit them for positions in civil life, and they are tempted by offers of large salaries to leave the service to take such positions. The Government should, therefore, give wages commensurate with wages given for the same trained technical skill in civil life.

I add my earnest approval to the recommendations of Major-General Corbin, in his report as department commander of last year, as to the uselessness of the fixed company organization for coast artillery. The company as a fixed unit should be "eliminated" and the "manning body" substituted for the organization of coast artillery. The number of officers and men necessary to man our fortifications with one relief should be provided, and then these officers and men should be assigned to the various works as the armament may require on the same plan as officers and sailors are assigned to a war ship, according to the needs of the particular vessel.

Searchlights.—The joint army and navy exercises and recent experiences at Port Arthur have brought into prominent notice the importance of searchlights in coast defense. It is accepted that an efficient searchlight equipment is essential to a safe defense.

In order that the principles of coast defense and attack at night should be practiced, it is necessary that search lights be installed at each artillery post. There should be at least one powerful light for each battle commander and for each fire and mine commander, to

enable the coast artillery troops to practice night drill in its simplest form.

Mixed batteries.—When the present scheme of coast defense was begun it was thought wise to construct batteries arranged for mounting therein guns of different calibers. It is now accepted that this was a mistake. Such batteries do not lend themselves to an efficient scheme of fire direction and control. It seems to me important that all batteries should be arranged so that each battery group of guns should be of the same caliber.

Lights for platforms.—All gun platforms are not adequately supplied with lights, without which it is impossible for cannoneers to perform their duties at the guns satisfactorily during night practice. At present the lack of adequate platform lights applies particularly to emplacements of rapid-fire guns. I therefore strongly recommend that all emplacements, particularly rapid-fire emplacements, be adequately supplied with incandescent lights.

Means of heating range-finding rooms.—Some of the operations connected with range and position finding require careful and delicate work. The men in these positions are stationary, and in freezing weather suffer severely from the cold because the rooms in which they work are not heated. The accuracy of the position-finding work is also seriously impaired by this condition. I urgently recommend that all plotting rooms of position-finding stations be provided with steam, hot water, or other means of heating. (This recommendation is made with special reference to the forts along the New England coast and as far south as to include the defenses in the Delaware River.)

High explosives for mines.—Dynamite has been the standard high explosive adopted for our submarine mines. There are many reasons suggesting that perhaps some other explosive would give as great explosive effect in mines and be free from the difficulties and dangers associated with the use of dynamite. I therefore recommend that funds be appropriated for the purpose of permitting the Torpedo Board to experiment with a view of determining and recommending for adoption a more satisfactory high explosive for submarine mines. When such an explosive has been found ample allowance should be made for service practice with mines at coast artillery posts. It is as important that coast artillery troops should have actual practice in exploding fully charged mines as it is that they should fire their large guns with full service charges.

Darkening walls of emplacements.—In my inspections I find that the glare of the sun reflected from the light-colored concrete walls of batteries is very trying, indeed painful, to the eyes of officers and men at work on the gun platforms. In some batteries this annoyance has been removed by applying to the surface of the walls a dark-colored wash or stain. The relief that has come to officers and men from such treatment of these walls constrains me to recommend that all battery walls about gun platforms be given some somber color that will be restful to the eyes.

Deterioration of electric plants in damp places.—Many batteries along the seacoast in which machines and material are installed are damp. It has no doubt been necessary to store this material in these places, but its rapid deterioration there suggests the advisability of

adopting some means to protect this valuable property against the effects of condensed moisture. It is suggested that such material be incased in some simple way, and that a small electric heater be installed within the case and a current be run through this heater just sufficient to keep the atmosphere therein heated above its dew-point. This or some other method must be resorted to to prevent the deterioration of our electrical machines and material and to render it thoroughly serviceable.

Interpost signals.—The position of the artillery district commander with respect to the post commanders of his district requires that he frequently communicate with them. The ordinary means of doing this is by boat or telephone. In case, however, the telephone system is out of order and it is not convenient or possible to use a boat the personnel of the posts should be able to exchange messages, using the customary means of signaling. Coast artillery posts are now supplied with flags, lanterns, and heliographs. I recommend that they be supplied in addition with the Ardois lights and Fiske semiphores and with the international form (sphere, cone, and cylinder) for mast signaling, and further recommend that permanent signal masts be erected at each coast artillery post and supplied with the above-mentioned means of signaling. If such were supplied, it would be possible for the Navy and the Coast Artillery to have interservice signal drill whenever naval vessels passed coast forts, thus preparing both the land and sea service for an important duty that would be necessary in time of war.

The international code of signals would further make all coast artillery forts receiving stations for commercial vessels, and put the entire coast line in communication with all coast vessels. These signals would also be of great service in exchanging messages between the tug towing targets and the shore during artillery practice.

Washable work clothing for coast artillery troops.—At present coast artillery enlisted men work about the guns, carriages, and other artillery material in the brown canvas fatigue suit. The care of the guns and other material requires the use of much oil, grease, cosmic, etc. As a consequence their work clothes are soon covered with oil and grease stains and become unsightly. The brown canvas of which their present work clothes are made is not a washable material. Neither is the felt campaign hat which is worn with this brown canvas clothing. The result is that the men present a soiled and slovenly appearance whenever they are at the guns, for this same clothing is worn at all drills and inspections at the guns, as well as during the cleaning period.

It is thought that an improvement would be secured by having the men supplied with a washable suit and washable hat or cap for their work at the guns. It would then be possible to require each man to keep two suits on hand, including head cover, and to keep one always clean. An allowance of washable work suits should be made to coast artillery troops, the same as the allowance of stable frocks is made to cavalry and field artillery troops.

SMALL-ARMS PRACTICE.

All organizations in the department during the practice season either have completed or are now engaged in completing the instruction required by Firing Regulations for 1904.

Infantry, cavalry, engineers.—Fifty organizations have completed the full course, five posts, at which were 36 organizations, firing on their own ranges, and five posts with 14 organizations having to fire at other stations.

Coast Artillery.—Twelve posts with 26 organizations fired on their own ranges, and 12 posts with 35 organizations fired at other stations, completing special course A; 5 posts with 10 organizations (the troops in the artillery district of Portland) were authorized to fire special course B on account of having no ranges sufficiently equipped to fire special course A.

Field Artillery.—One post, 2 organizations, will fire the prescribed revolver practice at home stations, and 2 posts, Forts Hamilton and Myer, with 3 organizations, will fire at Mount Gretna, Pa. One hundred and twenty-six organizations completed the required course in the department, and 12 companies Twenty-third Infantry and 4 troops Thirteenth Cavalry completed their small-arms practice in the Philippine Division.

Reports from 15 of the 50 companies shooting the full course for cavalry and infantry have been received and show marked improvement over last year. The following is the average general figure of merit of the organizations from which reports have been received to date: 1904, 45.4 per cent; 1905, 52.7 per cent; improvement, 7.3 per cent.

By the courtesy of the authorities of the State of New Jersey, 6 companies of the Eighth Infantry and 17 companies Coast Artillery, stationed in New York Harbor, were permitted to fire their respective courses on the excellent State range at Sea Girt, without charge to the Government.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

An act of Congress, 1903, gives additional pay of \$1 per month to enlisted men who qualify as expert riflemen. This was intended to (1) serve as an incentive to the soldier to perfect himself in the use of his weapon, and (2) to give an increase of pay based on efficiency in this particular.

While this is a step in the right direction, it does not go sufficiently far to give satisfactory results. In 1904 in this department only 5 enlisted men per 1,000 firing were able to reach this qualification, it being so difficult of attainment as to be practically out of the reach of the average soldier and fails to be an incentive for improvement, and for those few who are able to render such expert service in this most valuable quality of a soldier the reward is insufficient.

For the year 1904, from those eligible for qualification as expert riflemen, sharpshooters, or marksmen in this department (infantry, cavalry, engineers), 5 per 1,000 qualified as expert riflemen, additional pay per month, \$1; 24 per 1,000 qualified as sharpshooters, no additional pay; 49 per 1,000 qualified as marksmen, no additional pay—78 per 1,000 qualified as marksmen or better, and of these only 5 who qualified as expert riflemen received additional pay of \$1 per month.

For the same year from those eligible in the department for quali-

fication as first or second class gunners 107 per 1,000 qualified as first-class gunners, additional pay \$2 per month; 112 per 1,000 qualified as second-class gunners, additional pay \$1 per month—219 per 1,000 qualified as gunners, first or second class.

The above results show that far more skill and practical knowledge of the handling of his weapon is required of a marksman who draws no extra pay than is required of a first-class gunner who draws \$2, and illustrates that it is easier to tell how to shoot than it is to shoot; also, that about every fourth man in the artillery draws additional pay as first or second class gunner. The good result of placing this efficiency qualification for extra pay in reach of the average soldier is that it encourages probably four-fifths of the enlisted men of the artillery to strive to obtain it, to the great advantage of this arm of the service. It also shows that extra pay for efficiency in the handling of the small arm is at present so far out of reach of the average soldier as to fail entirely to cause him to strive to obtain it.

I recommend that an effort be made to secure from Congress legislation giving expert riflemen \$3 per month additional pay; sharpshooters \$2 per month, and marksmen \$1 per month.

This would give a slight increase of pay, based on efficiency in the use of the weapon, which increase would be sufficiently in reach of the soldier to cause a general striving for it, thus increasing the general efficiency of that part of the Army using small arms.

An inspection of the above figures shows that, even on this basis, the efficiency reward held out to the rifle and carbine would be less than that held out to the artillery gunner in proportion of about 78 to 219.

Purchase of ground for additional ranges.—I recommend that steps be taken to locate and secure in the vicinity of Washington grounds suitable for a model target range, on which all the competitions now authorized can be held.

At present it is necessary to transport the troops stationed in or near Washington very considerable distances to different State ranges for their practice, and to hire these ranges. There is not at present in this department a range on which the competitions now authorized by Congress can be held.

I recommend also that steps be taken to locate and secure in the vicinity of Portland, Me., ground suitable for a 300-yard range for the small arms practice of the coast artillery of that district, and capable at need of being developed into a regulation range.

There is at present no range in this entire artillery district, and it was found necessary to authorize practice for these posts in special course B, extreme range 50 yards. The necessity for this recommendation is apparent.

RESERVATIONS.

In the course of my inspections of the various artillery posts, I observed that at several posts the amount of ground within the reservation was entirely insufficient for the necessary military requirements. This is especially noticeable at Fort Levett on Cushings Island, Maine, where the amount of Government land is most limited. There even the board of officers who decided where buildings were

to be located recommended that no action be taken in the matter of building until it was decided whether or not more land was to be purchased on Cushings Island.

According to the plans and descriptions given me of the contemplated construction of buildings for the garrison at Fort Levett, I gained the impression that everything in the plans of the post seemed to be subservient to the idea of utilizing a small cottage which was on the land before it was purchased. It seemed inconsistent that so much importance should be attached to the preservation and use of this inexpensive cottage which could not have cost at most more than \$5,000 or \$6,000, when at Fort Williams, on the main land nearby, there is a splendid old mansion, having cost \$75,000 or \$80,000 originally, which was not taken into consideration at all in the making of plans for that post, and which has even been allowed to greatly deteriorate because of lack of repairs.

At Fort Levett, just in rear of some of the guns and in full view of two of the batteries, is a large summer hotel. This hotel is so near that the guns can not be fired without causing much damage to the building. The occupants of this hotel, if it is to be allowed to remain there, will be practically in the fort, while the soldiers who garrison the fort will live in barracks at a considerable distance from their guns.

At Fort Greble, Me., the amount of land within the reservation is so limited that there is not room for the necessary buildings; and one or more noncommissioned officers, who are entitled to quarters, are obliged to rent shelter outside the post. I have recommended that the Government purchase additional land adjacent to Fort Greble.

Fort Schuyler is located on a long, narrow peninsula, and when the emplacements for the guns are completed there will be little room left for the construction of barracks and quarters, to say nothing of the other necessary buildings for this post. There has been much correspondence and discussion on the question of purchasing additional land for this reservation, but as yet nothing has been decided in the matter, a fact to be regretted, as the value of land has greatly increased recently in this vicinity. The purchase of more land for Fort Schuyler is urgently recommended and should not longer be delayed.

PORTO RICO PROVISIONAL REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

It seems proper to call attention here to the status, which is not yet fixed, of the Porto Rico Provisional Regiment of Infantry. If this regiment is to remain a part of the military organization of the United States, it would seem only right and just that some provision be made for the future of its officers, who are at present not eligible for retirement, as are officers of the Regular Army. It is only natural that this fact should, to some extent, dampen their ardor and make them less useful. These officers must remain in a tropical country and are exposed to greater dangers from disease than are officers usually. In justice to the officers of this regiment, all of whom are deserving men, they should be assured of their future.

This comment applies equally to the status of the officers of the Philippine Scouts, many of whom have served with me and did most excellent work for the people and Government of the United States.

USE FOR ABANDONED FORTS.

The movement of troops from this department to the Philippines has brought forth several applications from officers and from enlisted men, for quarters in which to leave their families. Because of various reasons it is not always best or possible for their families to accompany them, and their means are not sufficient to provide proper shelter for the families left behind. I recommend that barracks and quarters in a limited number of abandoned forts be put in condition for the occupation of families of officers and enlisted men serving in distant possessions. Fort Trumbull, Conn., will soon be available and would be a most excellent place for such use.

CLERICAL FORCE.

The Department of the East is a large department (45 garrisoned posts), and to my personal knowledge the clerical work required at these headquarters is certainly double of that required at any other department headquarters in the United States. That this work has been performed energetically and faithfully I bear willing testimony, and I desire to commend the clerical force as a whole for their loyalty and perseverance under the many difficulties arising from lack of adequate assistance.

There should be an increase of certainly two additional stenographers and typewriters and, if possible, one clerk who has some practical knowledge of military papers.

I commend this question of increase in the number of clerks to favorable consideration of the Secretary of War, and I also recommend that the clerks now on duty here, most of whom only receive \$1,000 per annum, be regraded and a certain number advanced to the higher grades of pay, so that each clerk who is competent, faithful, and industrious may have some prospect of advancement as the years go by.

Very respectfully,

F. D. GRANT,

Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

THE MILITARY SECRETARY,

War Department.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
Atlanta, Ga., June 30, 1905.

SIR: Complying with paragraph 3, General Orders, No. 72, current series, War Department, the undersigned, in addition to his other duties, assumed temporary command of the Department of the Gulf during the absence of Brig. Gen. Thomas H. Barry, U. S. Army, on May 18, 1905. Previous to his departure General Barry prepared a report of the operations within the department covering the period from July 1, 1904, up to May 15, 1905, and said report is forwarded herewith for the information of the War Department.

The eleven companies and band of Seacoast Artillery which attended the army and navy exercises during the months of May and June were all returned to, or placed en route to, their proper stations on or before June 30, with the exception of the Eleventh Company of Coast Artillery, which was retained temporarily at Fort Washington, Md., because of an epidemic of dengue fever prevailing at its proper station, Key West Barracks, Fla.

The following changes among the troops in the department, in addition to those reported by General Barry as having taken place, occurred as indicated:

Sixteenth Infantry was, on May 20, 1905, placed en route to San Francisco, Cal., to embark June 1, 1905, for the Philippine Islands.

Third Squadron, Seventh Cavalry, was, on June 20, 1905, placed en route to San Francisco, Cal., to embark July 1, 1905, for the Philippine Islands.

The headquarters, band and Second Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, arrived at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., June 23, 1905, from the Philippines Division.

The remaining squadrons of the Twelfth Cavalry under orders for Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., and the Seventeenth Infantry, under orders for Fort McPherson, Ga., had not arrived up to June 30, 1905.

The troops of the department on June 30, 1905, were: Headquarters, band and 4 troops of the Twelfth Cavalry, First, Eighth, and Ninth bands, and 22 companies of Coast Artillery.

The changes in the personnel from June 30, 1904, to June 30, 1905, are as follows:

OFFICERS.

Gain: By transfer or appointment.....	82
Loss:	
By transfer.....	146
By retirement.....	4
Total.....	150

ENLISTED MEN.

Gain:

By enlistment	1,842
By reenlistment	794
By transfer	585
From desertion	119

Total..... 3,340

Loss:

Discharged by expiration of service	1,677
Discharged for disability	78
Discharged by orders	613
Discharged by general court-martial	115
By transfer	1,656
By retirement	5
Died of disease	6
Suicide	2
Deserted	357

Total..... 4,509

Strength of the department, present and absent, June 30, 1905: Commissioned officers, 123; enlisted men, 2,557.

The entire changes of stations of troops from June 30, 1904, to June 30, 1905, are as follows:

Organization.	From—	To—	Remarks.
Eighth Band, Coast Artillery	Fort Riley, Kans.	Key West Banks, Fla.	Arrived July 6, 1904.
One hundred and seven-	Fort Moultrie, S. C. ...	Fort Fremont, S. C. ...	Arrived Aug. 18, 1904.
teenth Company, Coast Artillery.			
Sixteenth Company, Coast Artillery.	Fort Fremont, S. C. ...	Fort Moultrie, S. C. ...	Arrived Aug. 19, 1904.
Headquarters Band, First Squadron, Seventh Cavalry.	Camp George H. Thomas, Ga.	Fort Myer, Va.	Left Aug. 28, 1904.
First Battalion, Sixteenth Infantry.	Fort Slocum, N. Y. ...	Fort McPherson, Ga.	Arrived Sept. 15, 1904.
Second Squadron, Seventh Cavalry.	Fort Oglethorpe, Ga.	Philippines	Left Apr. 20, 1905.
Headquarters Band, Sixteenth Infantry.	Fort McPherson, Ga.	.....do	Left May 20, 1905.
Third Squadron, Seventh Cavalry.	Fort Oglethorpe, Ga.	.....do	Left June 20, 1905.
Headquarters Band, Second Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry.	Philippines division.	Fort Oglethorpe, Ga.	Arrived June 23, 1905.

There were absent from the department on June 30, 1905, 1 general officer, on detached service; 1 officer of the pay department, sick; 2 officers of the Twelfth Cavalry, on leave; 4 officers of the Twelfth Cavalry, on detached service; 4 officers, Artillery Corps, on leave; 23 officers, Artillery Corps, on detached service; total, 36.

SCHOOLS FOR ENLISTED MEN.

Schools for enlisted men were conducted at the various posts during the year; the number of enlisted men at the posts during the school period was 3,065. Average daily attendance was 5.28.

SCHOOLS FOR CHILDREN.

Number of children of school age at posts, 68; number of children attending school, 47.

At most of the posts in the department the interest manifested was satisfactory. Condition of buildings, books, desks, etc., was generally sufficient in number and of good condition.

At posts where the school rooms have been reported unsatisfactory, it is hoped that within the next year new and suitable rooms will be available in new buildings now in course of erection, or that are contemplated.

JUDGE-ADVOCATE-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

One commissioned officer was tried by court-martial. The total number of enlisted men brought before general courts-martial for the year ending June 30, 1905, was 219, of which 25 were acquitted. One sentence disapproved. Number of approved sentences awarding dishonorable discharge was 117. Total number of violations of the various articles of war for which men were tried by general court-martial were:

Offenses.		Offenses.	
Article 17 -----	5	Article 39 -----	11
Article 21 -----	12	Article 40 -----	3
Article 32 -----	25	Article 47 -----	99
Article 33 -----	6	Article 60 -----	6
Article 38 -----	6	Article 62 -----	131

Number of cases tried by garrison court-martial, 9; number of acquittals, 4; number of sentences disapproved, 1. Articles of war violated, thirty-second, thirty-third, thirty-eighth, and sixty-second.

Number of cases tried by regimental courts-martial, none.

Number of cases tried by summary courts, 2,953, covering 1,732 different men; number of acquittals, 145; number of sentences disapproved, 5. Articles of war violated, seventeenth, twentieth, thirty-first, thirty-second, thirty-third, thirty-fourth, thirty-eighth, fortieth, fifty-first, fifty-third, and sixty-second.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

The duties pertaining to this department were performed by the chief quartermaster and the officers of the line detailed at the several stations. Construction work is under the immediate charge of the Quartermaster-General, whose instructions are given effect by officers detailed at the several stations as constructing quartermasters.

There was received during the fiscal year from appropriations and the Quartermaster's Department \$817,253.95, of which amount \$773,100.88 was disbursed, leaving a balance on hand June 30, 1905, of \$44,153.07.

The funds for all purposes have been promptly supplied and the indebtedness of the department has been met without delay.

The balances reported on hand, together with additional sums covered by special estimates but not yet remitted, will be required to meet obligations entered into prior to the close of the year.

The foregoing statement does not include large sums received on direct estimates by constructing quartermasters at posts and stations in the department, under the immediate direction of the Quartermaster-General of the Army.

Fuel, forage, and straw required at the several posts in the department have been provided under contracts, all of which have been satisfactorily completed. There have been no failures on the part of contractors to deliver suitable supplies. Other regular supplies have been provided by issues from general depots and by purchase in vicinity of posts, as found most advantageous to the department.

Clothing and equipage required by the troops have been supplied from the general depots promptly and of satisfactory quality.

There were allotted for repairs to public buildings at the several posts in the department during the fiscal year \$23,484, of which amount \$21,651.81 have been expended.

There were transported by all kinds of transportation within the department 270,509 passengers, 1,387 animals, \$433,826.65 of funds, and the remains of 9 persons. Stores transported of all classes, 14,255,214 pounds.

Total number of public animals on hand and received during the fiscal year, 767 cavalry horses, 50 draft and riding horses, and 423 mules; of these there were transferred, sold, or died, 297 cavalry horses, 15 draft and riding horses, and 131 mules, leaving on hand June 30, 1905, 470 cavalry horses, 35 draft and riding horses, and 292 mules.

There are 9 national cemeteries within the department.

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT.

There have been no difficulties encountered in the transportation of supplies furnished by this department.

There have been no complaints as to the distribution of supplies.

Owing to the changes in stations of troops, it was necessary to ask for the redistribution of a few articles that it was thought would seriously deteriorate if retained during the summer, pending arrival of new garrisons. Bacon, flour, and dried fruits were the main articles transferred.

Total losses of stores reported to June 30, 1905, \$101.59; total losses of property to same date, \$58.24.

The funds received from the Treasury Department was \$3,600; collections of paymasters, \$2,214.17; total, \$5,814.17, disbursed as follows:

Services	\$3, 900. 43
Commutation of rations	1, 321. 95
Printing	133. 28
Purchase of stores	43. 80
Purchase of property	87. 50
Total disbursements	5, 496. 96
Remaining on hand	327. 21

On calls from recruiting officers and commissaries, funds have been called for from various disbursing officers who will report on same.

There have been no losses of funds.

The commissaries at posts have been subject to change by transfer in many instances. Their duties have been generally uniformly, promptly, and well performed.

The post commissary sergeants seem to be competent and careful men.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

The mean strength of the department, as shown by the reports of sick and wounded, for the year was: Officers, 119; enlisted men, 3,217; total, 3,336.

Total admissions to sick report for diseases in line of duty, 2,532; not in line of duty, 1,035; for injuries in line of duty, 601; not in line of duty, 97. Aggregate for all causes, 4,265, giving a rate of 1,278 per thousand of mean strength. As a result of the diseases, wounds, and injuries as indicated above, the Government sustained a loss of 52,934 days' services, an average of 15.86 days for each officer and soldier, or 4.347 per cent of mean strength constantly noneffective.

Eleven deaths occurred during the year from the following causes: Typhoid fever, 1; multiple sarcomata, 1; gunshot wound, 4; chronic nephritis, 1; broncho pneumonia, 1; appendicitis, chronic, 2; poisoning by alcohol, 1.

Of the foregoing, 1 was an officer and 10 were enlisted men. Six of the deaths were on account of diseases, wounds, and injuries in line of duty, and 5 not in line of duty. The ratio of deaths to the command was 0.333 of 1 per cent per thousand of mean strength.

During the year 62 men were discharged for disability, of which 9 were for disability incurred in the service in line of duty, and 53 for disability not contracted in line of duty.

As relating to epidemics and contagious diseases, the following statistics are presented:

Fort McPherson, Ga.—Measles, 21 cases; first case was brought from Columbus Barracks, Ohio; Parotitis, 5 cases; variola, 1 case, a recruit from Columbus Barracks, Ohio, where it was probably contracted.

Fort Oglethorpe, Ga.—Parotitis, 15 cases, brought from Jefferson Barracks, Mo.; Typhoid fever, 10 cases; source, 4 from rifle range, Waco, Ga., 12 cases, drinking unboiled water from Chickamauga Creek by guard at Camp George H. Thomas, Ga., while transferring troop property, etc., from Camp Thomas to Fort Oglethorpe. Three cases source unknown. Since permanent occupation of new post of Fort Oglethorpe, there has been subsidence of the disease as indicated. No new cases since November, 1904.

Fort Screven, Ga.—Measles, 1 case; contracted on train.

Fort Moultrie, S. C.—Measles, 3 cases; contracted on train.

Key West Barracks, Fla.—Dengue fever, 186 cases, from August to November, 1904. At the present time there is an epidemic of fever in the town of Key West. Six cases reported in Key West Barracks, Fla.

Fort Dade, Fla.—Typhoid fever, 11 cases. Source supposed to be company barracks used as a typhoid-fever ward in 1903. An officer of the Medical Department from the Surgeon-General's Office was sent to investigate and trace the source of typhoid fever at this post. He made special report thereon under date of January 19, 1905. Every precaution was taken to limit the disease, which extended from December, 1904, to March, 1905, since which time there have been no new cases. Dengue fever, 12 cases.

Sanitary conditions of the posts in the department as a whole are very good.

Members of the Hospital Corps have received the instruction required by orders and regulations. From reports received, the instruction has been very satisfactory, and substantial progress has been made in increasing the efficiency of the Hospital Corps as a whole.

Medical and hospital supplies have been sufficient and of a good quality.

The annual estimates for the repairs of hospitals and quarters for the sergeants first class have, as a rule, been allowed, and the necessary repairs and new constructions have been made.

PAY DEPARTMENT.

The operations of the Pay Department covering disbursements for pay for the Army, amounting to \$1,423,597.49, have been satisfactory. All payments have been promptly made.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

Ordnance affairs through the year have been faithfully administered by the ordnance officer of the department, who is stationed at Augusta, Ga., in charge of the Augusta Arsenal, and who is also armament officer of the South Atlantic and Gulf coasts.

All requisitions for ordnance and ordnance stores are sent direct to him, and the promptness with which issues have been made and supplies furnished has demonstrated the wisdom of the course adopted in this department for furnishing these important supplies to the Army.

No complaint has been received as to the quantity or quality of the supplies furnished, but it is hoped that the issue of the new rifle will be made in the near future, as some of the arms in the hands of troops that have been in use a long time would require, in the interest of uniformity, to be turned into the arsenal for renovation if the new arm is to be very long deferred.

SIGNAL CORPS.

The principal operations of the Signal Department relate mainly to the installation of electrical communication for the system of fire control at the artillery stations, and have been carried on throughout the year as rapidly as the facilities permitted.

Requisitions have been prepared and forwarded for the equipment of those stations at the posts indicated in the memorandum from the Chief of Artillery to the Chief of Engineers, dated August 4, 1904, with the exception of Fort Morgan, Ala., and Fort Caswell, N. C. At the latter-named posts the stations are not completed by the Corps of Engineers at this date.

The installation at Fort Moultrie was begun May 17, 1905, and on this date the stations are practically wired and ready for the instruments.

Estimates have also been submitted for the supplies necessary to bring the post telephone systems in the department to the standard authorized in General Orders, No. 59, current series, War Department.

The equipment of the first-class target range near Waco, Ga., was

begun January 19, and completed March 28, 1905, and this range has now telephonic communication with Waco, Ga., about 3 miles distant.

Requisition is pending for the temporary equipment of a proposed first-class target range at Catoosa Springs, Ga., for the use of troops at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga.

In October, 1904, 4 miles of cable, type No. 41, was laid under supervision of the post authorities between Forts Morgan and Gaines, Ala.

A change in the installation at Fort Barrancas was made by the withdrawal of teleautographs to be remodeled, and after which remodeling only those on the gun lines will be reinstalled.

J. F. WADE,

Major-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

THE MILITARY SECRETARY,

War Department.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
Atlanta, Ga., May 15, 1905.

SIR: The undersigned respectfully submits the report of operations of the Department of the Gulf from July 1, 1904, to the above date, when he was relieved temporarily from command of the department and ordered as observer to the Russian army in the field in eastern Asia.

The report must necessarily be in general terms, as the details affecting the several staff departments can not be supplied till the chiefs thereof render their annual reports, which details will undoubtedly be supplied by the officer then in temporary command, or by the military secretary of the department.

At the date of rendition of the last annual report the troops of the department were: Headquarters, band and 12 troops Seventh Cavalry; headquarters, band and 8 companies, Sixteenth Infantry; First and Eighth bands and 22 companies of Coast Artillery.

At the present day they are as follows: Four troops Seventh Cavalry; Headquarters, band and 12 companies Sixteenth Infantry, and First, Eighth, and Ninth bands, and 22 companies of Coast Artillery.

The changes being as follows:

Headquarters, band and First Squadron of the Seventh Cavalry were transferred to the Department of the East, with station at Fort Myer, Va. First Battalion, Sixteenth Infantry, was transferred from Fort Slocum, N. Y., to Fort McPherson, Ga.

These changes were made immediately after the Manassas maneuvers, the entire Seventh Cavalry and Sixteenth Infantry having taken part therein.

The Ninth band, Artillery Corps, was transferred from Fort Riley, Kans., to Key West Barracks, Fla.

Second Squadron, Seventh Cavalry, on April 20, 1905, was placed en route to San Francisco, Cal., to embark May 1, 1905, for the Philippines Division.

In respect to the seacoast forts comprising the artillery garrisons of the department, much progress has been made in construction of

buildings, improvement of grounds, and some little improvement in the installation for fire control and direction. The installations are primitive and temporary, and it is hoped that much improvement may be made in the near future.

Notwithstanding the lack of proper facilities, the artillery troops of the department have shown a fine spirit and attained a very efficient professional condition, have completed the full course of sub-caliber and service practice with results so satisfactory as to bring forth the commendation of the Chief of Artillery, who remarks in letter of March 20, as follows:

It seems to me you have every reason to congratulate yourself on the artillery efficiency in your department. I have seen no report which would indicate that any other department is doing quite as well in artillery practice.

The credit for this efficient condition is due to district commanders and company officers, and the able assistance of the enlisted men.

In many instances 100 per cent of hits has been made by 8 and 10 inch batteries at ranges between 5,000 and 7,000 yards, and at targets moving from 5 to 10 miles per hour.

The record speaks well for the correctness of instruction and fire discipline and the accuracy of the guns, carriages, and ammunition.

Nearly equivalent results have been accomplished with the rapid-fire guns, and the mortar practice has been satisfactory.

In many instances where hits on the hypothetical target were not made the firing was good, and would have seriously damaged a fleet of ships.

The companies of Seacoast Artillery of the Department of Texas, stationed in the district of New Orleans, held their service practice for this year in this department, the Ninety-first Company at Fort Morgan, Ala., and the Fourth Company at Fort Barrancas, Fla.

There is an element of danger in service practice with large guns, especially at the extreme ranges, and this element is very much increased by lack of suitable boats. Generally speaking, a tug is hired for each practice, with a captain and crew entirely unfamiliar with the requirements, and more or less nervous because of lack of experience in these matters. There should be at each seacoast artillery post a powerful seagoing tug of the type of the torpedo planter in addition to any boats that may be available for transportation of supplies and passengers. With subcaliber practice, service practice, vessel tracking, and night drills such a boat is in use constantly during the three-quarters of the year devoted to practical work. It must be remembered that there are many days at these outlying stations, by reason of storms, wind, or roughness of the sea, that it is impracticable to hold practice, and in order to get in all that is required of the subcaliber and service the boat must be used practically during every good day. Steps should be taken to supply these boats; they must come sooner or later, and are absolutely indispensable to proper artillery administration of the several stations. It is next to impossible to get a combination boat that will answer for target practice and administrative purposes, and if such a boat could be devised it could not fill both conditions, and the result would probably be that administrative service would prevail to the prejudice of artillery efficiency.

The objection referred to in the last annual report to the retention

of companies of Coast Artillery for indefinite periods at their stations still exists in a more pronounced degree and is again urged to the attention of the War Department.

Some of the seacoast artillery companies have been at their respective stations, or in southern latitudes, from five to nine years, as indicated: Third Company, Fort Moultrie, since 1897; Fifth Company, Fort Screven, since 1898; Seventh Company, Fort Barrancas, since 1896; Eighth Company, Fort Morgan, since 1898; Eleventh Company, Key West Barracks, since 1899; Fourteenth Company, Fort Screven, since 1899; Fifteenth Company, Fort Barrancas, since 1900.

The same policy that governs in respect of rotation in stations of cavalry and infantry regiments should be made applicable to seacoast artillery.

I am satisfied that many efficient enlisted men who have qualified as gunners and attained the noncommissioned grade would remain in their organization by reenlistment were they satisfied that the company would be transferred to a new station.

The only way they can now secure a change is to take discharge and reenlist elsewhere, and to many of them with the loss of chevrons.

It is the policy of the Department to transfer artillery officers after a tour of three years in the South to a northern station. In my judgment better results would accrue were the companies transferred.

From July 1, 1904, to May 1, 1905, 1,199 men were discharged from coast artillery companies, and only 96 of them reenlisted.

The requirements of the artillery soldier to-day are equal to those of any other arm of the service, and in order that thoroughly instructed and efficient artillerymen may remain in the service their pay status should receive attention.

Fully as much intelligence is required of the artilleryman as of the engineer, and his pay status should be the same. A private of artillery who qualifies as gunner should receive the same pay as a first-class private of engineers, ordnance, and Signal Corps. Until qualifying as gunner he should receive the present pay, which is the same as the pay of the second-class private of engineers and ordnance, and artillery noncommissioned officers should receive the pay of noncommissioned officers of engineers.

As conducive to the contentment, pleasure, and instruction of the troops at the several posts concerned, authority was requested and granted to send the artillery bands from the district headquarters for periods not exceeding one month to each of the outlying stations. In consequence, the Eighth band from Fort Barrancas was sent to Fort Morgan, the Ninth band from Key West Barracks to Forts Dade and De Soto, and the First band from Fort Moultrie to Fort Caswell, and it was probably the first time in their existence that these outlying stations enjoyed the benefit and pleasure to be derived from a band. Wherever Government transportation was available, it was used in transporting the band from and to headquarters station. It is the intention to ask for renewal of this authority for each calendar year.

The experience of the past year emphasizes the recommendation of last year that the discipline and contentment of the enlisted men would be increased were the post exchange fully established with the privilege of selling beer and light wines.

The denial of this privilege in one instance in the Department, due to the smuggling of liquor into the post, has led to the killing of an enlisted man.

The recommendation made last year that gunners be not transferred was approved by the Department, and adds much to the efficiency of artillery organizations.

General Orders 141, War Department, series 1904, amending General Orders 100, War Department, series of 1903, relating to the technical instruction of Coast Artillery and to artillery practice, is complete, comprehensive, and in most respects satisfactory. I think the hypothetical mortar target is rather small, and I believe the lists of qualifying gunners should be published at department headquarters, as their publication by district commanders entails much labor at district headquarters. Furthermore, the paymaster who should have full information as to qualified gunners can better be furnished the same by printed orders issued at department headquarters than by orders issued at district headquarters, which are in most instances typewritten.

The artillery inspector of the division visited the artillery districts of Pensacola and Key West, with beneficial results to the officers and enlisted men thereof. It is hoped that he may visit the remaining districts in the department, this with a view to producing uniformity and strict compliance with all the requirements of orders affecting fire control and direction.

The theoretical season in this department is the first quarter of the target year, i. e., July, August, and September.

The Seventh Cavalry, Sixteenth Infantry, and National Guard troops from all States in the department, excepting Mississippi, attended maneuvers at Manassas, Va., last September, with satisfactory results.

The aggregate strength of the personnel of the department May 1 was: Officers, 165; enlisted men, 3414.

The following troops, in addition to those already transferred, are under orders for the Philippine Islands, and will leave as indicated:

Third Squadron, Seventh Cavalry, will leave Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., June 20, 1905, en route to San Francisco, Cal., to embark July 1, 1905.

Sixteenth Infantry will leave Fort McPherson, Ga., May 20, 1905, en route to San Francisco, Cal., to embark June 1, 1905.

These troops are to be replaced by the entire Twelfth Cavalry, which comes to Fort Oglethorpe, and the Seventeenth Infantry, which comes to Fort McPherson.

Eleven companies and the First Band of Seacoast Artillery have been designated to attend the army and navy exercises to be held in the districts of Chesapeake, Potomac, and Baltimore June 10 to 17 next, the companies going to the exercise districts May 1, remaining until June 30.

The aim has been to spare as many artillery troops as possible for these exercises, that the greatest number may have the benefit thereof. It necessitates holding the seacoast posts during the exercise period with garrison only sufficient for guard purposes and as caretakers of the armament and property.

There will be an interim of more than two months between the departure of the Sixteenth Infantry and the arrival of the Seven-

teenth Infantry in this department. It is proposed to take care of Fort McPherson during this time by the men transferred from the Sixteenth Infantry to the Seventeenth Infantry.

It is possible that the First Squadron of the Twelfth Cavalry will reach Fort Oglethorpe before the departure of the last squadron of the Seventh Cavalry. If not, the men transferred from the Seventh Cavalry to the Twelfth Cavalry will serve as guard for the property and to care for the horses.

The number of deserters belonging to this command for the period covered to May 1 was 288, or 8 per cent. During the period mentioned, 90 trials by general court-martial for desertion occurred, 42 of which were of men belonging to other commands who were apprehended or surrendered within the limits of this department and brought to trial therein.

There has been more or less complaint about the quality of recruits received. A great many are not up to the standard of intelligence required by the regulations covering recruiting, and many have been received whose physical infirmities should have been noted at the time of their enlistment and caused their rejection. More is required of the enlisted men to-day by way of intelligence than ever before. This is especially so as respects the artillery, and great care should be exercised in the enlistment of men for that arm of the service.

Shortage of officers is still felt, but it seems that this can not be rectified until numerous details now made from the active officers devolve upon retired officers, and until officers detailed to the general staff make vacancies to be filled by promotion and appointment, as do details to the several staff departments.

The policy has been announced of not considering for appointment as brigadier-general those officers who are eligible for retirement in that grade by reason of service in the civil war. This wise policy will gain for those deserving war veterans the promotion on retirement to which their long service entitles them, and will make eligible for promotion to the grade of general officer those who are in the prime of life and who can give several years' service to the country.

Considerable progress has been made in construction at several posts throughout the department. There have been completed and in course of construction during the past year the following buildings:

Fort Barrancas, Fla.—Two noncommissioned officers' quarters, one workshop, one lavatory, one mess hall, one guardhouse, one band barracks, one artillery barracks, one lieutenants' quarters, one captains' quarters, one post exchange.

Fort Caswell, N. C.—One captains' quarters, one guardhouse, one hospital stewards' quarters, two noncommissioned officers' quarters, one workshop, one hospital, one commissary storehouse, one gymnasium.

Fort Dade, Fla.—One officers' quarters, one noncommissioned officers' quarters, one mess hall and kitchen, one post exchange.

Fort De Soto, Fla.—One officers' quarters, one noncommissioned officers' quarters, one post exchange.

Fort Fremont, S. C.—One hospital.

Key West Barracks, Fla.—One officers' quarters, two noncommissioned officers' quarters, one lavatory.

Fort McPherson, Ga.—One double set captains' quarters, one bachelor quarters, one field officers' quarters, two double sets barracks.

Fort Morgan, Ala.—One post exchange, one fire-apparatus building.

Fort Moultrie, S. C.—One subsistence storehouse, one central dispensary.

Fort Screven, Ga.—One post exchange, eight sets officers' quarters, one administration building, two storehouses, one commanding officer's quarters, one stable, one workshop, four noncommissioned officers' quarters, three barracks, three mess halls, one kitchen, two lavatories, one coal shed, one guardhouse.

Fort Oglethorpe, Ga.—Six lieutenants' quarters, six captains' quarters, three field officers' quarters, one bachelor officers' quarters, six barracks, one band barracks, one guardhouse, one administration building, one hospital, one hospital steward's quarters, twelve stables, two stable guardhouses, one band stable, one workshop, one gas house and tank, one pump and boiler house, one gymnasium, one bakehouse, one scale house, one employees' quarters, one fire station, one quartermaster's storehouse, one magazine, one band stand, one lavatory.

Fort McRae, Fla.—One coal shed.

There are also in course of construction at Fort McPherson kitchens and dining rooms for the four double sets of old barracks, which will be completed on the arrival of the Seventeenth Infantry, so that each company of that regiment can go into quarters and run its own mess. The old general mess hall will, it is understood, be converted into a post exchange and gymnasium building. The removal of the general mess from this station will very much enhance the comfort and contentment of the enlisted men and put the messing of the troops where it belongs—with the company.

At nearly all of the seacoast stations difficulty is experienced in obtaining a sufficient supply of potable water. At Fort Moultrie contract was let to bore for artesian water, with successful results. The log of the boring is exactly similar to that of the well sunk in Charleston. At a depth of 1,920 feet a natural flow of 150,000 gallons per day of good potable water has been obtained. Contract has been let for similar boring at Fort Caswell, and, if successful, it should be the policy of the Government to bore at all seacoast stations where a sufficient quantity and quality of water is not now obtainable. This is especially desired at Key West Barracks, where the water supply is entirely insufficient, and, while no data are at hand as to the probability of artesian water being obtainable at a reasonable depth, yet, in the interest of that station and the community of Key West, the Government should fully test the matter.

If the projected railroad from Miami to Key West be constructed, it will very much enhance the importance of that station, for it will place it many miles nearer the Isthmus by rail than any Gulf port.

I have visited all the artillery stations in the department at least twice during the present fiscal year and supervised artillery target practices thereat. It was the intention to inspect Forts Oglethorpe and McPherson during the present month, but orders detaching me temporarily to duty elsewhere has prevented. All posts have been visited by officers of the inspector-general's department, and, as the result of their and my inspections, it can be stated that the commands are in a very satisfactory condition of instruction, discipline, and readiness for field service. The few irregularities noted were corrected immediately.

The discipline of the command is good; only one officer has been tried by court-martial. The number of enlisted men brought to trial with offenses will appear in detail when the report of the judge-advocate of the department is submitted.

The buildings at St. Francis Barracks, St. Augustine, Fla., are going to ruin by reason of lack of repair. Aside from retaining the old Fort Marion Reservation and the national cemetery there seems no occasion to hold the other reservations at this point.

Upon coming to this city in December, 1903, under orders of the chief of Staff to select a suitable place for headquarters Department of the Gulf, the building now occupied was practically the only one available. It is an old dwelling, and during the past winter it was almost uninhabitable, by reason of the difficulty to properly heat it, and under the best conditions there is more or less complaint on account of darkness of the rooms. With repairs the building can not be made suitable in all respects. A suitable office building promises to be completed by September 1 and undoubtedly will be by January 1 next. It is modern in all respects, and one floor will suffice for office purposes for these headquarters. I therefore recommended that the premises at present occupied be leased after July 1, with the proviso that they can be vacated on thirty days' notice, and urged that authority be granted for the lease of a floor in the new building when ready for occupancy, with additional authority to lease a stable elsewhere for the headquarters transportation. It was represented that in the end this would prove to be economical to the United States, and all concerned would have suitable office accommodations, which they did not then enjoy. The department granted authority to lease offices as above recommended, and when it is ready for occupancy these headquarters will be moved into the new building.

Small-arms practice throughout the department was completed last year for the Seventh Cavalry and Sixteenth Infantry at the Waco range, the season having to be extended for that purpose. The results were satisfactory and a great improvement over the practice of the year before. Three expert riflemen, 27 sharpshooters, and 55 marksmen qualified.

Owing to the departure of the Seventh Cavalry and Sixteenth Infantry, their practice for this season will have to be deferred until arrival in the Philippines.

Authority has been obtained for the lease of suitable land at Catoosa Springs, Ga., near Fort Oglethorpe, which will make a very excellent small-arms range for the troops at that post and avoid the necessity of sending them, as heretofore, to Waco, Ga., thus interfering more or less with the practice there of the troops from Fort McPherson. It is hoped that funds will be available for the purchase of the Catoosa Springs site, whereon can be established one of the best rifle ranges in the country.

The special course prescribed for the coast artillery troops has been followed, and the results are satisfactory. The athletic training of the command has been prosecuted with excellent results and the troops much benefited physically. The department meet was held at Fort McPherson October 13, 14, and 15, 1904, where all athletes of the department were assembled and very satisfactory results obtained. As the results of the experience of last year's athletic training and instruction and the department meet, a new order governing athletics was issued, which is believed to be complete in all respects and to exactly fit the conditions of this department and southern climate.

A change has occurred by which the time-honored "adjutant-general" in our service has disappeared, to be replaced by misnomer, "military secretary," which is neither a correct nor proper descriptive appellation for the office, and can hardly be followed down to the post and regiment. There has always been an adjutant of the post and regiment, and following up, an adjutant-general of a tac-

tical brigade, division, and army corps, and of a geographical department and division, and also of the Army. Each State has an adjutant-general provided for by law, and all national guard regiments an adjutant, and it is not believed they will change those time-honored and descriptive titles for the misnomer "military secretary." It would seem to be in the interest of time-honored sentiment, tradition, and history to go back to the old title, and legislation to that end is recommended. There would seem to be no objection to terming the present Military Secretary's Department the Adjutant-General's Department and terming all military secretaries adjutants-general. Certainly not after the retirement of the present Adjutant-General of the Army.

The troops of the command, aids, and staff officers of the department have performed their duties satisfactorily, and acknowledgments are made to them.

THOMAS H. BARRY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

THE MILITARY SECRETARY,
War Department.

REPORT NORTHERN DIVISION.

REPORT NORTHERN DIVISION.

HEADQUARTERS NORTHERN DIVISION,
St. Louis, Mo., June 30, 1905.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of affairs in this division:

The aggregate strength of the command, present and absent, on this date is 14,373, distributed as follows: Department of the Lakes, 2,677; Department of Dakota, 2,831; Department of the Missouri, 8,865.

The undersigned has been in command of the division but twenty days of the year covered by this report, and is therefore obliged to depend for data upon the reports of the staff officers and other headquarters records.

PERSONNEL ON JUNE 30, 1905.

Commander: Brig. Gen. Theodore J. Wint, U. S. Army. Personal staff: Stationed at Omaha.

Division staff.—Chief of staff: Lieut. Col. Henry A. Greene, general staff. Assistant to chief of staff: Capt. William M. Wright, general staff. Military secretary: Capt. William M. Wright, general staff—acting. Inspector-general: Lieut. Col. Frederick K. Ward, Inspector-General's Department. Assistants to inspector-general: Maj. Francis H. French, Inspector-General's Department, and Maj. William A. Nichols, Inspector-General's Department. Chief engineer officer: Capt. Sherwood A. Cheney, Corps of Engineers. Inspector small-arms practice: Capt. Sherwood A. Cheney, Corps of Engineers. Attending surgeon: Capt. Llewellyn P. Williamson, Medical Department.

ALTERATIONS, JUNE 30, 1904, TO JUNE 30, 1905.

Division commander.—Maj. Gen. John C. Bates, U. S. Army, June 30, 1904, to June 10, 1905; Brig. Gen. Theodore J. Wint, U. S. Army, June 10, 1905, to June 30, 1905.

Personal staff.—Capt. William M. Wright, Second Infantry, aid to Major-General Bates, June 30, 1904, to June 9, 1905; Capt. Sherwood A. Cheney, Corps of Engineers, aid to Major-General Bates, June 30, 1904, to June 10, 1905; First Lieut. Van Leer Wills, Twelfth Infantry, aid to Major-General Bates, June 30, 1904, to June 10, 1905; First Lieut. William B. Cowin, Third Cavalry, aid to Brigadier-General Wint on June 30, 1905.

Division staff.—General staff.—Chief of staff: Maj. Edward J. McClernand, General Staff, June 30, 1904, to March 23, 1905; Maj.

James A. Irons, General Staff, acting, August 28 to September 28, 1904, December 20, 1904, to January 16, 1905, March 24 to April 2, 1905; Lieut. Col. Henry A. Greene, General Staff, April 2 to June 30, 1905. Assistants to chief of staff: Maj. James A. Irons, August 1, 1904, to May 19, 1905; Capt. William M. Wright, June 9, to June 30, 1905. Adjutant-general and military secretary: Lieut. Col. James Parker, Adjutant-General's Department, June 30, 1904, to March 20, 1905; First Lieut. Van Leer Wills, Twelfth Infantry, aid, acting, March 20 to June 30, 1905; Capt. William M. Wright, General Staff, acting, on June 30, 1905. Inspector-general: Col. Charles H. Heyl, Inspector-General's Department, June 30, 1904, to November 21, 1904; Maj. William A. Nichols, Inspector-General's Department, acting, November 21 to December 19, 1904; Lieut. Col. Frederick K. Ward, Inspector-General's Department, December 19, 1904, to June 30, 1905. Assistants to Inspector-General: Maj. William A. Nichols, Inspector-General's Department, June 30, 1904, to June 30, 1905; Maj. George H. G. Gale, Inspector-General's Department, June 30, 1904, to April 12, 1905; Maj. Francis H. French, Inspector-General's Department, April 18 to June 30, 1905. Chief engineer officer: Maj. David DuB. Gaillard, Corps of Engineers, June 30 to October 31, 1904; Capt. Sherwood A. Cheney, Corps of Engineers, in charge of office October 31, 1904, to June 10, 1905; chief engineer officer June 10, to June 30, 1905. Inspector small-arms practice: Capt. William M. Wright, Second Infantry, aid, June 30, 1904, to June 2, 1905; Capt. Sherwood A. Cheney, Corps of Engineers, June 2 to June 30, 1905. Attending surgeon: No alterations.

Theoretical and practical instruction of the troops of this command has been carried on throughout the year in accordance with the requirements of existing regulations and orders.

The operations of the several schools have been carried on under the immediate supervision of the General Staff on duty at these headquarters. By a system of detailed monthly reports, which were carefully scrutinized and analyzed as received, as well as by a thorough personal inspection of their work by one of the officers of the General Staff, the operations of the various schools were held strictly to the letter and spirit of the regulations governing them, as promulgated in General Orders 115, War Department, 1904, and in subsequent Department orders, and circulars and decisions of the General Staff published as memoranda. Specific report upon the operations of the order above cited was made by General Bates while in command of the division, together with recommendations as to the changes considered desirable; it is therefore unnecessary to repeat the same at this time. It is desired, however, to emphasize one or two matters which, it seems, might be changed to advantage. First, as to the examination of officers stationed in garrisons too small to permit the formation of such a board as is provided for in the general case. The regulations now provide for a written examination in each subject, as completed, by the instructor therein; the examination papers to be retained by the post commander until the end of the school term, when they shall be submitted to and passed upon by an examining board as hereinafter provided. (Par. 29, G. O. 115, W. D., 1904.)

In paragraph 30 provision is made for sending the student officers to other posts (for what purpose? They have already been examined

under the provisions of paragraph 29); or for sending competent officers from other posts to complete a board. Again, for what purpose? To examine papers which at small expense could have been sent by mail. Both prescribed methods involve a useless expenditure for mileage.

It is suggested that in the amendment of existing orders provision be made for examination as per paragraph 29, General Orders 115, and that at the close of the school season the examination papers at small posts be sent to such large posts as the division commander may direct, to be passed upon by the board there constituted, the findings to be acted upon by the department commander (this to avoid the possibility of the action of the board being approved by a junior in the person of the commanding officer of the post to which the officer whose papers are being examined belongs), and then returned to the post commander for file and for the preparation of the required certificates.

Second, with reference to the post school for enlisted men. It is believed that, inasmuch as existing regulations require a reading, writing, and speaking knowledge of the English language at enlistment, the attendance of enlisted men at post schools should be voluntary and that such schools should be conducted as night schools. Such men as are truly ambitious to improve their education will avail themselves of the privilege thus offered and there will be no opportunity for worthless men to avoid more onerous duty by a perfunctory attendance at school, as has been known to be the case when the schools were conducted during the hours of ordinary routine duty. Night sessions were successfully held during a portion of the past season in this division. It is further recommended that such privates as are ambitious to improve themselves in a professional way or such promising privates as captains may have in view for future promotion to the noncommissioned grade be given the privileges of the noncommissioned officers' school. If it be thought subversive of discipline to have the noncommissioned officers and privates recite together, separate classes might be formed for recitations and these brought together only for instruction by lectures.

The spirit manifested by all connected with the several schools was, in general, excellent, and the advantages derived undoubtedly great. The wisdom of systematic, progressive theoretical work for both officers and men is apparent.

In a few instances, through misapplication or a too liberal construction of the regulations, the precedence given to school work was overlooked, and a few cases of not strictly necessary leaves of absence were granted, but as attention was promptly called to such lapses their repetition is improbable.

The inspections by the division commander and the officers of the Inspector-General's Department show that, in general, the garrisons are in a very good state of military efficiency. Supplies are sufficient and of good quality. Criticisms and suggestions have been made from time to time immediately after the visits of inspection and need not be repeated here. The equipment of proper gymnasia at the several posts, and the athletic contests under proper supervision, are productive of much physical benefit to the men and make for better discipline.

Good libraries and reading rooms, with carefully selected books, daily and weekly newspapers and magazines, are essential to all posts.

In view of the fact that generally in the immediate vicinity of army posts there are numerous saloons over which the post authorities have no control, and whose influence on the command is always bad, it is believed that the temptation to visit such saloons should be removed as far as possible by providing a place at the post under military supervision where beer and light wines can be had by enlisted men. I have never been in favor of the saloon in connection with the canteen or post exchange, but would give permission to some responsible person to conduct such place under fixed rules, his lease or permit to be revocable at the pleasure of post or such other authorities as may be considered best.

The depletion of the organizations of the line of officers due to detached service of various kinds continues, and the multiplicity of duties imposed upon the balance renders their work very heavy the greater part of the time in order to keep the troops up to a high standard of efficiency. With so many officers of limited experience in the junior grades, it is essential that captains should not be detached from their commands except for very cogent reasons.

The recommendation of last year by the commanding general of this division for liberal authority for the employment of stenographers in all court-martial cases where an unusual amount of testimony is to be taken is renewed. It secures speedy justice and causes less interference with other important duties of the members of the court-martial.

Many of the post guardhouses are badly congested with military convicts, and it is hoped that a speedy return to the military-prison system is practicable.

While the labor of such convicts is useful at some of the larger posts, at many others it is difficult to find such work in sufficient quantities to carry properly into effect the sentence of "confinement at hard labor." Moreover, segregation is difficult in some guardhouses, and contact of hardened criminals with prisoners confined for minor offenses and with the guard, is prejudicial to discipline.

The annual inspections of the National Guard prescribed as necessary to carry out the provisions of section 14, act of January 21, 1903, were made by officers of the line detailed from the nearest posts. The reports of inspection were received and forwarded to the War Department. The inspections were apparently made with thoroughness, and the results show conditions as to organization, supply, discipline, and training characterized all the way from poor to excellent. There is still much to be accomplished before there will be anything like uniformity or an approximation to a reasonable standard of general efficiency in many organizations, but there is general improvement over conditions prevailing the year before, and, as the State officials from governors down seem to be generally earnest and honest in their efforts and desires, good results will surely follow in due time. Complaint is made that the mileage of officers charged with these inspections is insufficient to cover the extra expenses involved. Reimbursement of actual expenses would prevent this hardship.

The various colleges, universities, and other institutions of learning within the limits of the division where an officer of the Army has

been detailed for duty were inspected during the year by officers designated for that duty from nearby posts. The reports of such inspections have been forwarded to the War Department; they indicate that in some instances the schools are not up to the requirements of regulations as to number of students, and an occasional departure from strict compliance with orders as to the kind and quantity of military instruction has been noted. These shortcomings have been indicated specifically in indorsements forwarding the reports. While it is believed that much benefit will accrue from military instruction under the conditions imposed by existing orders, a strict compliance therewith should be exacted and instructor and equipment promptly removed from any institution which does not comply fully with the letter and spirit of such orders.

The regular quarterly reports and returns of these schools have been forwarded to the War Department as received. In many cases, it has been necessary to return these papers for correction and amendment, due to carelessness on the part of the officers making them, which is not becoming in those selected as military instructors and exemplars.

The inspector-general in his report calls attention to the need of post laundries and suggests as a practicable method for their establishment that "the Quartermaster's Department provide the rooms or building and equipment, and that some officer, preferably the post-exchange officer, be charged with the conduct of the establishment. It should, of course, be self-supporting as regards everything but the building and the permanent fixtures therein; in other words, the charges should be such as to provide a fund sufficient to maintain all the light or movable articles of equipment complete and in good condition and no more than that; no more than just sufficient to meet the cost of operation, labor included. If managed by the exchange officer, the receipts should not be covered in with the exchange funds but should be carried separate, and separate periodical reports rendered of the business. Probably the best method of collection from enlisted men would be to charge on the muster and pay rolls the total amount due the laundry on each roll, to be deducted by the paymaster and by him paid to the proper officer. The need of some such establishment is greater now than formerly, because of the greater number of wash articles in the soldier's uniform."

The suggestion of the inspector-general as to collection of amounts due is not concurred in, believing that the labor imposed on the pay department would be very great and unnecessary. I think the better way would be to have the men sign laundry checks at the time of receiving their wash from the laundry, the same to be collected on pay day in the same way that other exchange credit amounts are collected. In fact the laundry business should be practically an exchange feature, but without profit to the exchange.

The inspector also invites attention to the matter of mounts for regimental and battalion staff officers of infantry. He says, in part:

Officers of artillery detailed to duty with field batteries are permitted to ride public horses and are not required to provide their own mounts, doubtless because their tours of duty are limited. The infantry staff officers are required to own their mounts and horse equipments. This comes especially hard upon the battalion staff officer whose tour as such is limited to two years, while the tour of an artillery officer with a light battery is three years. There

should be no difficulty in issuing the necessary number of horses and equipments to each regiment for the use of those officers whose tours of duty as mounted officers are limited.

The force of both the preceding suggestions is admitted and their consideration is recommended.

The inspector-general further reports upon the poor condition of many of the rifles and carbines in the hands of troops. This is well known, but in view of the fact that the new rifle is soon to be issued an issue of the present model is not recommended at this time. The officer named voices the general opinion that the caliber of the present revolver is too small; that it has not sufficient stopping power. A weapon of not less than .45 caliber is believed to be more efficacious at the range at which the revolver would be used. The inspector-general comments favorably upon the latest model bit and curb strap and upon the saddle now furnished by the Ordnance Department, but advocates strongly the adoption of the bridoon bit and rein.

One of the assistants to the inspector-general reports that the dye of the brown canvas tentage is a failure, and condemns the custom of using a tin collar for stovepipe holes in tents as being a very destructive agency when tents are packed; he recommends an asbestos protector. He also reports adversely upon the present method of having all camp and garrison equipage in possession of quartermasters at posts, and recommends a return to the former method of giving each company the custody and care of its property of that character. The company commander need not make return for this property, but keep it in his control on memorandum receipt. Careful consideration of the foregoing is recommended.

The work of the office of the chief engineer officer of the division has been carried on very satisfactorily. The boundary lines of the military reservation of Fort Mackenzie, Wyo., have been resurveyed. A survey for a protected target range at Fort Crook, Nebr., was made and plans and working drawings prepared. The map of the Department of the Missouri, on a scale of 12 miles to the inch, has been completed, and tracings made of same. The map of the Department of Dakota, Department of the Lakes, and the map of the northern division are also nearing completion. Instruments, supplies, and blueprint copies of maps and plans have been issued as required. One hundred and ninety-six blueprint copies have been made, 211 maps mounted on cloth, 18 tracings and 7 original drawings about 18 by 26 inches were made, and 65 sketches about 8 by 12 inches were made and traced for reproduction.

The work on the progressive military map of the United States has been begun, the detail of officers for each respective party has been made, and the topographical sheets selected and mounted on cloth for field use. The instructions have been prepared under the supervision of the chief of staff, and field work is now under way and will continue as long as weather permits, or until each officer has completed the area assigned to him of $\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ of latitude by 1° of longitude—about 35 by 60 miles. Thirty-eight officers are employed upon this work.

The target practice and competitions were conducted in accordance with regulations and with gratifying results. While there has been general improvement in the ranges in the division, there are certain

posts which have no ranges and consequently have to resort to various expedients for their practice or go without it.

The tract of land adjacent to Fort Snelling, purchased for the purpose, has enabled practice at that post.

Fort Crook, Nebr., has no range, but the commanding officer has discovered a piece of land near Plattsmouth which he thinks is suitable and which may be obtained for quite a reasonable figure. The tract will be examined carefully and specific report made later.

No regular practice was had by the troops at Fort Thomas this year. It is recommended that a suitable site be sought for a range that will serve for that post and Columbus Barracks. The troops of the latter post, through the courtesy of the National Guard of Ohio, have practiced on the State range at Newark, Ohio.

During 1904 the Fort Wayne garrison practiced on a hired range at Island Lake, Michigan. At the close of the season a protest made by citizens living in the vicinity prevented the use of that range this year, and practice has been had upon a hired range at Brest, Mich. A report upon the suitability of this range will be made at the close of the season, and an effort will be made to secure a permanent range for this post. The same will be done for Fort Brady, the garrison of which is practicing this year at Rexford, Mich.

The competitions this year, held under the supervision of the division commander, are: Division infantry, at Fort Sheridan, Ill., to begin July 24; division cavalry, at Fort Riley, Kans., to begin July 24; division pistol, at Fort Riley, Kans., to begin July 31; army infantry, at Fort Sheridan, Ill., to begin August 3; army cavalry, at Fort Riley, Kans., to begin August 3; army pistol, at Fort Riley, Kans., to begin August 11. Special reports will be submitted later.

Under existing rules the department commander is authorized to excuse from classification "soldiers who were discharged so near the beginning or who joined so near the close of the practice season as to have been unable to complete the course." There seems to be no reason why this should not be extended to include deserters, men who are retired or have died, and those who from sickness are prevented from completing the course, and also be made to include officers who may come in any of the above categories.

It is respectfully suggested that the practice of officers and men competing for places on the same team be discontinued. A glance at the composition of the division and army teams shows too great a proportion of officers. Whether this is due to the greater intelligence of the officers or to better facilities for conducting his practice is immaterial; the results show that competition between the officers and enlisted men is not quite just to the latter. It is believed advisable to continue their firing together at competitions; it keeps up the interest of both; but, as a result, it is believed that there should be two teams for both division and Army—one composed of officers and one of enlisted men. When a team is made up to represent the Army in the national match, it should be a composite team selected from the best of each of the officer and enlisted army teams.

Notwithstanding the fact that both cavalry and infantry are soon to be equipped with the same arm, it is believed desirable to continue the separate competitions, as the rivalry between the two branches of the service will be conducive to good results.

In line with the policy of abandoning, whenever practicable, the small posts, it is recommended that the abandonment of Fort Washakie be given serious consideration. It seems to be of no particular military importance, it is remote from the railroad, and expensive to maintain. There will be in the immediate future other quarters in the Department of the Missouri available for the Fort Washakie troops.

The work of the General Staff officers at these headquarters has been satisfactory. The chief of staff and, in his absence, the assistant, has acted for and in the absence of the division commander as his representative, has exercised constant supervision over the routine work in all departments and specifically they together have completed and forwarded to the Chief of Staff of the Army the detailed solution of the military problem which was proposed by that officer in letter of February 3, and which was worked out in accordance with instructions contained in that and in subsequent letters and memoranda.

They have also exercised immediate supervision of all matters pertaining to the schools of instruction comprising the post school for enlisted men and schools for noncommissioned officers and the garrison school for officers. In the solution of the problem to which reference has been made, much valuable data was collected, which it is intended to keep up to date as far as practicable with the object of revising the solution from time to time as conditions change.

The members of the office force of the headquarters have performed their several duties with fidelity and intelligence. It is believed that the clerks are justly entitled to a higher rate of pay, at least those who do the higher class of work. In this particular, their condition does not compare favorably with that of clerks in other departments whose work is of no more importance or greater in quantity.

Notwithstanding the provisions of a letter of The Military Secretary's Office of June 8, 1905, requiring department commanders to send one copy of their annual report to the division commander at the same time that the copies required by General Orders, No. 89, Headquarters of the Army, Adjutant-General's Office, June 25, 1901, are mailed to War Department, it is impracticable for the division commander to have the advantage of such reports before writing his own. It is therefore recommended that the order above cited be amended to require the reports of the department commanders to be submitted on or before August 1 of each year. It would also appear that this matter of annual reports is of sufficient importance to be treated of in Army Regulations.

Respectfully,

THEO. J. WINT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

THE MILITARY SECRETARY,
War Department.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE LAKES.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE LAKES.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE LAKES,
Chicago, Ill., August 15, 1905.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of matters pertaining to this territorial department for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1905.

The department was from the beginning of the year covered by this report until September 27, 1904, commanded by Brig. Gen. Frederick D. Grant, who on that date left these headquarters to assume command of the Department of the East. Brig. Gen. Frederick Funston was in command from September 28, 1904, until March 31, 1905, when he left these headquarters to assume command of the Department of California. I exercised command of the department temporarily from August 26 until September 15, 1904, during the absence of Brigadier-General Grant at the Manassas maneuvers, and again assumed command on March 31, 1905, under the provisions of army regulation 193, upon the departure of Brigadier-General Funston.

TROOPS IN THE DEPARTMENT.

The strength of the command, present and absent, June 30, 1905, was as follows:

	Present.	Absent (within and with- out the depart- ment).	Total.
Commissioned officers	80	44	124
Enlisted men	2,113	449	2,562
Aggregate	2,193	493	2,686
ATTACHED.			
Commissioned officers	8	6	14
Enlisted men	13	3	16
Aggregate	21	9	30

These troops occupied the following posts June 30, 1905:

Fort Brady, Mich.: Maj. Robert N. Getty, First Infantry, commanding; First Battalion, First Infantry.

Columbus Barracks, Ohio: Maj. Edwin F. Glenn, Fifth Infantry, commanding; Companies C and D, Eighth Infantry.

Fort Sheridan, Ill.: Lieut. Col. Richard T. Yeatman, Twenty-seventh Infantry, commanding; headquarters. Companies A and D, and Second and Third battalions, Twenty-seventh Infantry.

Fort Thomas, Ky.: Maj. Edgar W. Howe, Twenty-seventh Infantry, commanding; Companies B and C, Twenty-seventh Infantry.

Fort Wayne, Mich.: Capt. William M. Swaine, First Infantry, commanding; headquarters, and Second Battalion, First Infantry.

A detachment of the First Infantry, consisting of 1 officer and 36 enlisted men, from Fort Wayne, Mich., was on duty at Westlawn Cemetery, Canton, Ohio, as guard over the tomb of the late President McKinley.

September 22, 1904, Companies A and D, Ninth Infantry, arrived from Madison Barracks, N. Y., at Fort Thomas, Ky., and took station thereat. They left Fort Thomas April 24, 1905, for San Francisco, Cal., en route to the Philippine Islands.

November 15, 1904, the field and staff, Third Squadron, and Troops I and K, Eleventh Cavalry, left Fort Sheridan, Ill., to take station at Fort Des Moines, Iowa.

February 16, 1905, the First Battalion, Philippine Scouts, arrived at Fort Thomas, Ky., from the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis, Mo. They left Fort Thomas March 23, 1905, for San Francisco en route for the Philippine Islands.

March 16, 1905, Company C, Eighth Infantry, from Fort Slocum, N. Y., and Company D, Eighth Infantry, from Fort McHenry, Md., arrived and took station at Columbus Barracks, Ohio, relieving the Third Battalion, Twenty-seventh Infantry, which proceeded to station at Fort Sheridan, Ill.

June 28, 1905, the Tenth Battalion, Field Artillery (Fourteenth and Twenty-first Batteries), left its station at Fort Sheridan, Ill., and proceeded by rail to Fort Sill, Okla., to remain in camp there until November 1, 1905.

During the months of July and August, 1904, the Second Battalion, Twenty-seventh Infantry, participated in the encampments of the Indiana Organized Militia at Lawrence, Ind., and of the Ohio National Guard at Athens, Ohio. The Fourteenth and Twenty-first Batteries, Field Artillery, participated in the encampment of the Ohio National Guard. Companies A and C, First Infantry, took part in the encampment of the Michigan National Guard at Ludington, Mich., and of the Ohio National Guard at Athens, Ohio; Companies E and H, First Infantry, in the encampment of the Michigan National Guard at Ludington, and Companies F and G, First Infantry, in the encampment of the Ohio National Guard at Athens.

The First Battalion, Philippine Scouts, took part in the inaugural parade at Washington, D. C., March 4, 1905.

The band and Second Battalion, Twenty-seventh Infantry, and Fourteenth Battery, Field Artillery, participated in the Memorial Day exercises at Chicago.

The band, First Infantry, had one month's tour of duty at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, St. Louis, Mo.

May 15, 1905, department headquarters were moved from the Pullman Building to the Federal Building.

Maj. Hutter Liggett, military secretary, has been on duty as military secretary of the department during the entire year.

Maj. Blanton Winship, Judge-Advocate, U. S. Army, has been the judge-advocate of the department during the year.

Three commissioned officers were tried and convicted by general courts-martial during the year. Three hundred and ninety-five men

were tried by general courts-martial, this number including 133 men belonging to organizations serving in other departments. Of the men tried by general courts-martial, 267 were dishonorably discharged. Two hundred and twelve men were convicted of desertion, 70 of whom had been in service more than six months at time of desertion. Five cases were tried by garrison courts, and 1,898 cases by summary courts.

The number of men tried by general court-martial in this department who belong to other departments was as follows:

Department of California	3	Department of Missouri	36
Department of Colorado	15	Department of Texas	18
Department of Columbia	4	Department of Northern Luzon ..	2
Department of Dakota	10		
Department of East	31	Total	133
Department of Gulf	14		

Desertions from posts in the department during the year.

Month.	Fort Brady.	Columbus Barracks.		Fort Sheridan.	Fort Thomas.	Fort Wayne.	Total.
		Garrison.	Recruits.				
1904.							
July.....	12	4	8	23	4	1	52
August.....	5	2	16	16	4	1	44
September.....	8	2	9	22	3	3	47
October.....	4	3	8	20	2	2	39
November.....	4	5	4	7	1	2	23
December.....	3	1	6	4	2	0	16
1905.							
January.....	2	1	8	9	2	1	23
February.....	3	1	9	4	1	0	18
March.....	1	4	12	2	1	0	20
April.....	3	0	18	2	5	4	32
May.....	1	1	25	17	1	1	46
June.....	1	4	20	5	0	3	33
Total.....	47	28	143	131	26	18	393

Lient. Col. William H. Miller, deputy quartermaster-general, has been the chief quartermaster during the year. He has had as assistant from June 30, 1904, to November 10, 1904, Maj. David S. Stanley, quartermaster, and from November 11, 1904, to June 20, 1905, Maj. George McK. Williamson, quartermaster. The detail of an officer of the Quartermaster's Department as an assistant to the chief quartermaster of the department is very much needed.

The following table shows the amount of receipts from the Treasury and other sources during the year, amounts disbursed, and balances remaining unexpended at the close, June 30, 1905:

Appropriation.	Year.	Receipts.	Disbursements.	Balance on hand June 30, 1905.
Regular supplies	1905	\$182,809.09	\$156,900.87	\$25,908.22
Do	1904	22,088.74	21,918.73	170.01
Do	1903	50.00	50.00	
Incidental expenses	1905	97,476.35	93,795.89	3,680.46
Do	1904	8,203.06	8,178.40	24.66
Do	1903	38.44	19.91	18.53
Cavalry and artillery horses	1905	18,107.00	17,997.41	109.59
Army transportation	1905	322,522.29	308,628.93	15,893.36
Do	1904	142,936.46	138,763.77	4,172.69
Do	1903	5,466.97	5,415.65	51.32

Appropriation.	Year.	Receipts.	Disbursements.	Balance on hand June 30, 1905.
Barracks and quarters	1905	\$99,172.85	\$94,419.86	\$4,753.49
Do	1904	4,872.66	4,677.11	195.55
Shooting galleries and ranges	1905	3,624.14	3,609.18	15.01
Do	1904	562.10	562.10	.....
Hospitals	1905	1,975.73	1,961.42	14.31
Do	1904	1,355.14	1,355.14	.....
Clothing and equipage	1905	10,790.00	10,485.00	305.00
Do	1904	148,325.60	106,980.94	41,394.66
Hospital stewards' quarters	1905	167.44	159.52	7.92
Do	1904	15.05	15.05	.....
Military post exchange	1905	260.95	177.80	83.65
Do	1904	8.00	8.00	.....
Do	1903	27.29	27.29	.....
Addition to Fort Sheridan	1905	4,500.00	4,431.27	68.73
Confederate cemetery, Camp Chase, Ohio	1905	3,560.00	3,526.95	233.05
Confederate mound, Oak woods Cemetery	1905	229.17	.....	229.17
Do	1904	3,850.00	3,850.00	.....
National cemeteries	1905	33.00	33.00	.....
Military reservation, Prairie du Chien, Wis	1905	2,952.00	429.79	2,522.21
Barracks and quarters, Philippine Islands	1904	1,107.50	1,107.50	.....
Barracks and quarters, 1903, Manila, P. I	1904	1,579.40	1,579.40	.....
Military post, Manila, P. I	1905	68.30	68.30	.....
Do	1904	5,683.85	5,315.42	368.43
Officers' schools	1904	206.63	206.63	.....
Total		1,094,641.20	994,429.18	100,212.02

At the close of the fiscal year there were in service in the department 1 cavalry, 207 artillery, and 53 draft horses, and 90 mules. Five hundred and thirty-five cavalry horses were purchased at an average cost of \$119 each.

Col. Frank E. Nye, assistant commissary-general, has been the chief commissary of the department during the fiscal year.

The subsistence stores and property required for the supply of troops in the department were procured by requisitions on the purchasing commissary at Chicago, except in cases where surplus stores and property were available at the depots in New York and San Francisco. Contracts were made for supply of fresh meat and fresh vegetables. The system of supplying meal requests to men en route to their respective stations has worked very satisfactorily, and no complaint regarding the quality of the meals or the conduct of the men has been received.

MONEY ACCOUNTABILITY.

Appropriations, subsistence of the Army, 1903.

Received paymaster's collections	\$7.10
Deposited to credit of Treasurer United States	7.10

Appropriations, subsistence of the Army, 1904.

On hand	\$5,273.29
Received by transfer	252.84
Paymaster's collections	115.78
Total accountability	5,641.91
Disbursed	\$1,326.21
Transferred	131.39
Deposited to credit of Treasurer United States	4,184.31
	5,641.91

Appropriation, subsistence of the Army, 1905.

Received by transfer	\$31,333.74
Paymaster's collections	1,173.17
Remittances from United States Treasury	135,000.00
Total received	167,506.91
Disbursed	\$13,858.56
Transferred	148,744.16
	162,602.72
Balance due United States June 30, 1905	4,904.19

Col. Philip F. Harvey, assistant surgeon-general, has been the chief surgeon of the department during the year. He reports that he made a tour of sanitary inspection of all the posts in the department and found them to be in excellent condition in all matters relating to their hygiene, with the exception of a few items of minor importance. These were pointed out to the surgeon of the post in each instance and directions given him to submit necessary recommendations for their correction.

The command at Fort Sheridan having outgrown the accommodations afforded by the hospital, additions are now being made to it which will render it ample in capacity to meet the increased demands made upon it, as also to bring it up more clearly to modern requirement.

The hospital at Columbus Barracks was found to be altogether too small to meet requirements. It is also in bad repair. This state of affairs has resulted from the fact that the sale of the post and the construction of a new one was for sometime under consideration, and allotments for repairs had to be withheld for the time being. Action is now under consideration providing for the proper repair of the hospital.

The health of the command during the year is reported as having been fairly satisfactory. There were 3,799 admissions to sick report for diseases and injuries, 18 deaths, and 118 discharges for disability. Of the discharges for disability, 67 were recruits discharged for physical defects which existed prior to enlistment.

Eleven cases of typhoid fever were reported during the year, but it is not believed that the disease was contracted in any instance at a post in this department.

Forty-eight cases of alcoholism were reported, a much more satisfactory showing than that of the previous year, when 63 cases with 1 death were reported.

A scheme for the systematic and uniform instruction of detachments of the Hospital Corps prescribed by the Surgeon-General became effective November 1, 1904, and since then has been energetically carried out by medical officers.

Col. Albert S. Towar, assistant paymaster-general, has been the chief paymaster of the department during the fiscal year.

Maj. Beecher B. Ray, paymaster, has been on duty during the year, and Capt. Earl C. Carnahan, paymaster, since March 19, 1905. Capt. Edmund Wittenmyer, paymaster, was on duty from July 1 to December 7, 1904; Capt. John M. Sigworth, paymaster, from July 1, 1904, to March 20, 1905.

The troops were paid promptly and regularly.

RECEIPTS.

On hand July 1, 1904.....	\$36, 255. 64
Received from Treasurer United States.....	1, 137, 000. 00
Received from paymasters.....	376, 203. 06
Received from soldiers' deposits.....	38, 901. 79
Received army paymasters' collections.....	31, 159. 28
Total	1, 619, 519. 77

DISBURSEMENTS.

Disbursed to United States Army	1, 485, 350. 71
Unexpended balances refunded to Treasurer United States.....	17, 030. 00
Army paymasters' collections deposited to the credit of United States Treasurer.....	31, 159. 28
On hand June 30, 1905.....	85, 979. 78
Total	1, 619, 519. 77

Col. John R. McGinness, Ordnance Department, was the chief ordnance officer until September 17, 1904, the date of his retirement from active service; First Lieut. Edwin C. Long, Artillery Corps, aid-de-camp, until March 28, 1905, when Maj. Hunter Liggett, military secretary, took charge of the office.

Second Lieut. Kenneth P. Williams, First Infantry, aid-de-camp, was the chief signal officer of the department from the beginning of the year until September 27, 1904; First Lieut. Edwin C. Long, Artillery Corps, aid-de-camp, until March 28, 1905, when Maj. Hunter Liggett, military secretary, assumed charge of the office.

The post telephonic systems are now being inspected by a competent noncommissioned officer.

Capt. Edmund Wittenmyer, paymaster, was the inspector of small-arms practice of the department from the beginning of the year to September 29, 1904; First Lieut. Burton J. Mitchell, Twelfth Infantry, aid-de-camp, until March 28, 1905. Maj. Hunter Liggett assumed charge of the office on the latter date.

Practice is now being carried on. Detailed reports of the result thereof will be submitted at a later date. The post ranges at Fort Brady and Fort Sheridan are in good condition. Columbus Barracks has no range, but by courtesy of the Ohio State authorities the troops practice at the Newark State range. The range at Fort Thomas is unsafe. Repeated efforts have been made to secure land in the vicinity suitable for a range, but so far without result. The troops at Fort Wayne practiced this year at a range near Brest, Mich. The range is on a farm about 28 miles distant from Fort Wayne. It is divided into two parts by a public road crossing near the 860-yard point. No trouble was had this year with the owners of adjoining land. Houses and land are not considered in danger from stray bullets. At 1,000 yards firing has to be done across a public road, the firing point being about 140 yards from road. This may be a cause for injunction, but there were no complaints made this year. By exercising extreme care it is not believed that any trouble will occur.

Since the publication of General Orders, No. 4, January 24, 1905, these headquarters, prescribing rules governing instructions in athletics, exercises have been held at all posts for twenty minutes daily, Saturdays and Sundays excepted. An athletic contest is held at all

posts once a month and a department contest will be arranged for if circumstances will permit.

I recommend that all troops be equipped with the new uniform, olive drab, for post wear, and that all the old blue blouses and overcoats be dyed black and issued to general prisoners.

Desertions will continue as long as public sentiment favors the deserter. Prison guards should be organized at posts where large numbers of general prisoners are confined. They should be independent of the garrison and modeled after the guard formerly used at Leavenworth Military Prison. I recommend this measure only until the general military prison be reestablished, and this can not be done too quickly. The association of young soldiers with general prisoners, now more or less necessary at posts, is most injurious to discipline. Besides this, the guardhouses are necessarily overcrowded at all posts.

At the annual inspection of posts of the department, made between June 6 and June 28, 1905, by me in person, I found troops in a good state of discipline, well equipped, well commanded, and well supplied.

Very respectfully,

W. T. DUGGAN,
Colonel First Infantry, Commanding.

THE MILITARY SECRETARY,
War Department.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI.



REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,
Omaha, Nebr., July 13, 1905.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the affairs and administration of the Department of the Missouri for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1905:

The boundaries of the department under the arrangement of divisions and departments prescribed by General Orders, No. 65, series of 1903, War Department, have remained throughout the year as thus ordered—that is, the Department of the Missouri, forming a part of the Northern Division, comprises the States of Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, Wyoming (except that part included in the Yellowstone National Park), Kansas, and Missouri.

The posts in the department are: Fort Crook, Nebr.; Fort D. A. Russel, Wyo.; Fort Des Moines, Iowa; Jefferson Barracks, Mo.; Fort Leavenworth, Kans.; Fort Mackenzie, Wyo.; Fort Meade, S. Dak.; Fort Niobrara, Nebr.; Fort Riley, Kans.; Fort Robinson, Nebr.; Fort Washakie, Wyo.

Fort Omaha, or Omaha Barracks, however it may be officially designated, has been in progress of reconstruction for occupation by companies of the Signal Corps, and although not yet reestablished as a post, one company of infantry has been placed there under instructions from the War Department, dated June 23, 1905, to guard property. This company, which is furnished from the garrison at Fort Crook, has been placed in camp at the post and draws its supplies from Fort Crook, the camp being temporarily regarded as a substation of that post. Recent information from the War Department indicates that one company of the Signal Corps will be sent to the post at an early date, and it will then doubtless be reestablished as one of the posts of the department.

The personnel of the headquarters of the department and changes therein, the location of the troops, changes and movements of troops in detail, strength of the command, and changes in the enlisted personnel during the year are shown in the appendixes to this report A to F.^a

The principal changes of troops were:

Increase of the garrison at Fort Leavenworth, Kans., by Company A, Signal Corps, which arrived there October 18, 1904.

Arrival of the Ninth Cavalry from the Pacific Division in October and November, 1904, in place of the Fourth Cavalry at the posts Fort Riley, Fort Leavenworth, and Jefferson Barracks, the latter regiment having proceeded to the Pacific Division in October.

^a Omitted.

Departure of the Twenty-eighth Battery, Field Artillery, from Fort Leavenworth to the Philippines, December 23, 1904.

Departure of headquarters and Second Squadron, Eighth Cavalry, from Jefferson Barracks, Mo., February 15, 1905, and the Third Squadron, Eighth Cavalry, from Fort Riley, Kans., March 17, 1905, to the Philippines.

Departure of the Sixth Infantry from Fort Leavenworth to the Philippines, and the arrival of the Eighteenth Infantry at that post from the Philippines in February, 1905.

Arrival of the First Squadron, Thirteenth Cavalry, at Fort Riley, from the Philippines, May 26, 1905.

Departure of Companies A and B, First Battalion of Engineers, from Fort Leavenworth to the Philippines, June 22, 1905.

At Jefferson Barracks the headquarters and Second Squadron of the Eighth Cavalry were not replaced by other troops, the regular garrison now consisting of one squadron of the Ninth Cavalry and the recruit detachment.

The strength of the command on June 30, 1905, was as follows:

	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.
General officers	1		1
Staff departments	96	296	392
Engineers	13	164	177
Signal Corps	2	100	102
Cavalry	196	3,417	3,613
Artillery	41	977	1,018
Infantry	168	2,918	3,086
Recruit detachment at Jefferson Barracks Recruit Depot		566	566
Total	457	8,408	8,865

The officers and enlisted men at posts, as shown by post returns for June, 1905, were as follows:

	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.
Fort Crook, Nebr.	36	565	601
Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo.	50	782	832
Fort Des Moines, Iowa	37	552	589
Jefferson Barracks, Mo.	18	856	874
Fort Leavenworth, Kans.	96	2,107	2,203
Fort Mackenzie, Wyo.	16	237	253
Fort Meade, S. Dak.	39	524	563
Fort Niobrara, Nebr.	34	537	571
Fort Riley, Kans.	74	1,586	1,660
Fort Robinson, Nebr.	38	524	562
Fort Washakie, Wyo.	7	127	134
At department headquarters and stationed at cities in the department	12	1	13
Total	457	8,408	8,865

In addition to the numbers stated above, 83 officers are attached at Fort Leavenworth as instructors and students in the Infantry and Cavalry School and Staff College, and 18 officers are attached at other posts in the department; also 146 enlisted men are attached at posts, most of them at Fort Riley under instruction in the training school for farriers and horseshoers, and the schools for bakers and cooks.

The following observations relative to posts and troops are reported, based on my inspections during the year:

FORT CROOK, NEBR.

Commanded by Col. Edward B. Pratt, Thirtieth Infantry.

Troops.—Headquarters, field, staff, and band, and First and Third Battalions, Thirtieth Infantry.

Officers and men are efficient in the performance of duty, and the troops are well drilled and instructed. The general appearance of the men was noticeably good, showing careful instruction and thorough discipline, the improvement over last year, when the regiment had a large number of recruits, being very marked.

Quartermaster's department.—Buildings in good condition, except the barracks. In barracks, plaster is falling from the walls and ceilings, floors are splintered, and porches are in bad condition. Funds have been allotted to effect repairs, and there will be much improvement in the conditions during the current fiscal year.

The quartermaster's supply of stores is ample and well cared for. Transportation is in good condition.

Subsistence department.—Ample supply of drugs, well cared for.

Medical department.—In good condition. The hospital was found neat and clean and well supplied.

FORT D. A. RUSSELL, WYO.

Commanded by Col. Albert L. Myer, Eleventh Infantry.

Troops.—Headquarters, field, staff, and band, Eleventh Infantry; Sixth Battalion, Field Artillery (Eighth and Thirteenth Batteries).

The troops presented an excellent appearance, both on review and at inspection; well drilled and equipped. A practical exercise by battalion in marching to and establishing camp with field equipment was creditably executed. The infantry at target practice showed some unfamiliarity with, or inattention to, the details of instruction in position, aiming, and trigger pull. I refer to this subject in a general way at a later part of this report.

In one of the batteries of artillery I observed a custom which might be adopted to advantage in all mounted troops; that is, to have the coat straps habitually removed from the saddles and submitted for inspection in barracks with other articles of field equipment usually kept there, such as saddle bags, lariats, etc.

The barracks were generally in good condition, but in some cases walls were scarred and soiled, and floors unclean. I refer to this subject in a general way in a later part of this report.

Quartermaster's department.—Many of the buildings are quite new and in thorough repair. Barracks and stables for a squadron of cavalry are in course of construction under charge of a constructing quartermaster. The older buildings are as a rule in good condition, requiring only ordinary repairs. The new stables for artillery horses are reported to be too small under the new organization of field batteries, having stalls for 104 horses only, whereas there should be 120. The new gun sheds are also of insufficient capacity for the new equipment. Means should be provided for watering the horses within the stables, a very essential feature in winter, the climate being severe.

There are a number of small wooden buildings in rear of the barracks which are not in keeping with the brick structures of modern

construction, are a menace to the new buildings in case of fire, and should be removed; but not, however, until others have been supplied to serve the purposes for which they are now used. They have been adapted from wooden buildings constructed in the early history of the post, and are now used as shops, company storerooms, telegraph office, for protection of fire apparatus, etc. Also, in rear of the older officers' quarters are board fences, and wooden sheds for fuel, which present a bad appearance, although neat and in good order. Fuel sheds are necessary at the older quarters, as they have no basements, but they should be brick structures in keeping with the other buildings.

The quartermaster's supplies are ample and in good order. The storehouse was crowded, but this condition will be relieved upon completion of an addition now in course of construction. The transportation was in good order.

Subsistence department.—Stores ample; storehouse clean and in good order.

Medical department.—In good condition; the hospital clean and in good order, but considered quite inadequate for a garrison as large as contemplated after buildings in course of construction are completed.

FORT DES MOINES, IOWA.

Commanded by Col. Earl D. Thomas, Eleventh Cavalry.

Troops.—Headquarters, field, staff, and band, and Second and Third Squadrons, Eleventh Cavalry.

This command was in satisfactory condition, considering that a large number of recruits have been received within the year, and most of the mounts have been provided in that period. The mounts are of high grade and there is every reason to believe the command will become most excellent cavalry.

Quartermaster's department.—The buildings are new throughout; accommodations for a third squadron are under construction.

Quartermaster's supplies, sufficient and in good condition. Transportation in good order.

The target range is in process of construction, considerable work being necessary on a drainage system to make the range available in wet weather.

Subsistence department.—Ample supply of stores, well cared for.

Medical department.—In good condition; hospital new and in good order.

JEFFERSON BARRACKS, MO.

Commanded by Lieut. Col. Edward A. Godwin, Ninth Cavalry (now colonel, Fourteenth Cavalry).

Troops.—Third Squadron, Ninth Cavalry; recruit detachment.

The squadron was well drilled and in good condition generally. The recruit detachment was inspected in barracks only. The partial destruction by fire of one double barracks on December 13, 1904, resulted in temporary crowding, and the quarters of the recruits were in consequence very unsatisfactory, but this condition will be remedied upon reconstruction of the damaged building.

The character of the recruit depot has been somewhat changed

under instructions from the War Department, dated February 15, 1905. Formerly all the recruits received were united in a single detachment, which was under charge of officers and noncommissioned officers of the troops stationed at the post; now the detachment is divided into three recruit companies, A, B, and C, the officers of which have been sent to the post from the regular recruiting detail, and the non-commissioned officers, under War Department orders, from regiments within and without the Department for this particular duty. This change has been made in accordance with a new plan and policy of the War Department in the management of recruit depots. The control in all matters of police and discipline remains under the post and department commanders as formerly.

Quartermaster's department.—Buildings in good condition; stores ample and well cared for.

Subsistence department.—Stores ample and well cared for.

Medical department.—In good condition; hospital, an old building, inadequate for the requirements of the post, but neat and clean.

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANS.

Commanded by Col. Charles B. Hall, Eighteenth Infantry.

Troops.—First Battalion of Engineers, less Companies A and B; Company A, Signal Corps; Eighteenth Infantry; Provisional Battalion of Field Artillery (Sixteenth and Twenty-ninth Batteries); Second Squadron, Ninth Cavalry.

The command presented a very good appearance on review, at inspection, and at drill. In some cases comparatively new barracks were not in as good condition as one would expect to find them, probably due to insufficient information as to best methods of caring for floors, walls, etc. The artillery barracks were, however, noticeably clean and well kept. A novel feature in the dormitories of the Sixteenth Battery was a shoe-rack attachment on each bunk, a device to admit of thorough cleanliness of floors.

Quartermaster's department.—In good condition. Considerable work in progress, buildings and roads being under construction.

Subsistence department.—New storehouse; stores ample and well cared for.

Medical department.—In good condition.

FORT MACKENZIE, WYO.

Commanded by Maj. Richard M. Blatchford, Eleventh Infantry.

Troops.—Third Battalion, Eleventh Infantry, less Companies C and K; Troops G and H, Tenth Cavalry.

At the date of my inspection the permanent post commander, who was a cavalry officer, was absent with leave. The troops were not in as good condition as I desired, especially the cavalry. There was no reason to believe, however, but that they could be brought to a high state of proficiency with care and attention, and I took measures to bring about needed improvement.

Quartermaster's department.—In good condition. New buildings are to be built, with a view to a garrison consisting of headquarters and two battalions of infantry.

Subsistence department.—Stores ample and well cared for. Potatoes and onions were stored in the basement of the commissary storehouse, and as the place was light, dry, and clean, with cement floor, I observed no objection to such storage.

Medical department.—In good condition.

FORT MEADE, S. DAK.

Commanded by Col. William Stanton, Sixth Cavalry.

Troops.—Headquarters, field, staff, and band, and First and Second Squadrons, Sixth Cavalry.

At the time of my inspection the post was commanded by Col. Allen Smith, Sixth Cavalry (now brigadier-general, United States Army, retired). The command was generally in good condition, but individual training in horsemanship had not received sufficient attention. The horses were observed to be in good condition, biting uniform and good, equipments neat and clean, and arms in good condition.

Quartermaster's department.—Stores ample and well cared for. Pack trains and transportation generally in good condition.

Subsistence department.—Stores ample and well cared for.

Medical department.—In good condition.

FORT NIOBRARA, NEBR.

Commanded by Col. Ralph W. Hoyt, Twenty-fifth Infantry.

Troops.—Headquarters, field, staff, and band, and First and Third Battalions, Twenty-fifth Infantry.

The troops and staff departments in excellent condition. The post is of old construction and requires considerable repairs every year, with probability of more rapid deterioration in the near future.

FORT RILEY, KANS.

Commanded by Col. Edward S. Godfrey, Ninth Cavalry.

Troops.—Headquarters, field, staff, and band, and First Squadron, Ninth Cavalry; First Squadron, Eleventh Cavalry; First Squadron, Thirteenth Cavalry; Fourth Battalion, Field Artillery (Sixth, Ninth, and Twenty-fifth Batteries), and Fifth Battalion, Field Artillery (horse) (Seventh and Twentieth Batteries).

These troops are in excellent condition, appearing well both on review and at inspection.

Quartermaster's department.—Many of the buildings are new and in excellent condition. The others require only ordinary repairs, except in the case of the barracks of the Fourth Battalion, Field Artillery, which require extensive alterations in the bathing facilities to make them light, clean, and in keeping with similar facilities in the newer barracks. Transportation was in good condition. Stores ample and well cared for.

Subsistence department.—Stores ample and well cared for.

Medical department.—In good condition. The hospital is inadequate; an addition will be built this year.

FORT ROBINSON, NEBR.

Commanded by Col. Jacob A. Augur, Tenth Cavalry.

Troops.—Headquarters, field, staff, and band, and First and Third squadrons, Tenth Cavalry.

Condition of troops excellent. The marching of the troops on review was most excellent at all gaits, and lines well preserved, showing high degree of training, careful and excellent instruction. Arms and equipments, with very few exceptions, in excellent condition. Barracks, stables, saddle rooms, etc., were generally in good order.

Staff department well supplied and in good condition.

FORT WASHAKIE, WYO.

Commanded by Capt. Thomas G. Carson, Tenth Cavalry.

Troops.—Staff and noncommissioned staff, Second Squadron, Tenth Cavalry; Troops E and F, Tenth Cavalry.

Condition of the command excellent.

Staff departments well supplied and in good condition.

This post was built many years ago, chiefly by the labor of troops. It should, before long, be abandoned, or rebuilt with modern structures, as the present buildings are becoming dilapidated. Only most necessary repairs have been allowed in recent years in view of probable abandonment.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The following remarks relative to matters which have come especially to my attention during the year are submitted:

Competitive drills and inspections.—While engaged on my inspections of posts I observed in some instances a laxity of interest in the instruction of troops, particularly in the instruction of the individual cavalry man, and it occurred to me that a cavalry contest would add the incentive which the circumstances seemed to demand. I accordingly formulated a scheme for such a contest, proposing to assemble at a central military post toward the end of the drill season detachments of cavalry from the several regiments in the department, each detachment to be selected by the regimental commander and to consist of one officer, one sergeant, three corporals, and nine privates, all to be taken from the same troop, the regimental commander to determine in advance by such inspections or competitions as he deemed necessary the troop which he considered would furnish the best detachment. The plan provided for a board of judges, and the contest was to comprise the topics of the Cavalry Drill Regulations included in the school of the trooper, inspections, mounted, in dress uniform, and in service uniform with complete field equipment, and pistol-range practice, mounted course. Such a contest would have involved transportation of the detachment and judges and about a carload of horses from each regiment to the place of the meet and return, and I had a careful estimate of the cost prepared, the figure arrived at being about \$2,700. In submitting the proposition for the approval of superior authority, I stated that the contest was not

to be regarded in any sense as an athletic contest but a competition based on the cavalry drill regulations to develop interest in and attention to the instruction of the individual cavalryman in horsemanship, the care of his horse and equipment, and mounted pistol practice, and I expressed the opinion that it would do for the cavalry what rifle competitions do for target practice.

The proposition did not meet with favorable consideration by superior authority; the fact that the appropriation for transportation for the year had been seriously reduced did not warrant approval of an unusual request involving travel. But as a consequence of this project, however, and following in part a suggestion of superior authority, I have this year directed that post commanders institute competitive drills and inspections among organizations of the same arm in their respective commands, anticipating that if good results follow, at some future time contests between detachments, or organizations, of separate commands may be held. A field artillery contest would, in all probability, require that one section of each battery participate. In this department, Fort Riley would be the most suitable place for the meet, the batteries at Fort D. A. Russell and Fort Leavenworth sending their representative sections to that post. In infantry, the contest should be twofold in character; (*a*) the excellence of individuals to be tested by a meet of representatives in a contest partaking largely of athletic features, chiefly of a military character, however, and (*b*) competition among complete organizations such as companies and battalions, a board of judges to visit infantry posts, and have the company and battalion which is selected by the regimental commander as the representative organization, exhibit before the board at its own post, rather than assemble organizations at a central meet. The excellence of infantry is shown by the appearance and training of complete organizations rather than detachments or individuals, but it might be impracticable to assemble them at a central meet, hence the necessity of a visiting board.

Training of inexperienced cavalry officers.—I have found at every cavalry post one or more young cavalry officers who, through lack of training, were not efficient cavalry instructors. Occasionally an untrained officer is found in command of a troop. I have directed, in orders, that training be given such officers by experienced officers under the direction of post commanders, but that seems to be hardly sufficient. They should be sent to the School of Application for Cavalry and Field Artillery at Fort Riley for a term of instruction of at least six months. Graduates of the United States Military Academy who are assigned to the cavalry, if not good riders, if not informed as to training horses, caring for them, and instructing recruits in horsemanship, should also go to the school at Fort Riley to learn these essential qualifications of cavalrymen.

Small-arms target practice.—In Chapter II, Part III, Small-Arms Firing Regulations, aiming positions are minutely described and illustrated and exercises are laid down to insure correctness in position and trigger pull. Presumably these positions have been determined by experts and are just as important for good results in target firing as is a correct seat in the saddle for good horsemanship. The garrison school course includes lessons in these subjects, and all officers are supposed to know and practice what is prescribed; but I find

that on the target range a number of the officers are ignorant of, or indifferent to, the minutiae of this instruction, and I believe it is due to the fact that while studying the text for recitations in the garrison school no opportunity is presented at the time for practical experience on the range. It would be advantageous if the course of study could be supplemented with practical instruction. Not a few officers require such instruction to enable them to become good shots, and it seems to me every officer who is expected to instruct men in shooting should himself be a good shot. I have directed post commanders to institute post competitions among officers, with a view to improvement among all company officers who are not good shots.

Mounted officers of infantry.—The question of the rights of officers of infantry in the matter of mounted pay when assigned to temporary command of battalions has proved somewhat vexatious. It appears that a regimental commander may assign a captain to the command of a battalion in the absence of its field officer and require him to perform mounted duty, but in order to receive mounted pay the department commander must certify that the duty required him to be mounted. It would seem that the officer who gives the order for the mounted duty should certify to the necessity, for the purpose of pay.

Under this heading, I would express the opinion that the tendency to increase the number of officers of infantry who are to be mounted, and to furnish mounted orderlies therefor is a mistaken policy, for the reason that it increases very materially the difficulty of providing forage in a large command. Under the organization as prescribed by the Field Service Regulations, issued this year, each infantry regiment would have horses as follows: Regimental mounted officers, (15), each 2 horses, 30; surgeons (3), each 2 horses, 6; mounted orderlies (20), each 1 horse, 20; mounted hospital corps (6), each 1 horse, 6; total, 62.

The authorized daily allowance of forage for 62 horses is 744 pounds of grain, 868 pounds of hay, total weight 1,612 pounds. This is a large quantity to provide daily, and doubtless in time of war, with large forces, the difficulties in delivering such quantities would be too great. Infantry has not the mobility to forage in surrounding country as cavalry would do; whatever it requires must be delivered to it.

Care of barracks.—The Quartermaster's Manual gives some very valuable instructions relative to the care of steam and hot water heating plants. This fact serves as a suggestion that the same department might to great advantage publish for the information of all concerned a full set of instructions detailing the proper methods, materials, and apparatus for preserving all parts of barracks in good condition. Floors should be absolutely clean at inspections, plastered walls should be at all times free from smutches and indentations, base boards clean and unscarred, corners and crevices free of dust, polished fixtures of plumbing bright, and tubs and closets white and odorless. These conditions and others in the matter of cleanliness are desirable. Although faulty conditions may often be attributed to carelessness and indifference on the part of the enlisted men and lack of discipline among them, I am inclined to believe from my observations that a lack of knowledge on the part of company com-

manders as to how to proceed, what materials to use, and what apparatus is best adapted to the purpose is frequently the reason for the unsatisfactory conditions. For instance, there are doubtless better methods of cleaning floors than by swashing buckets of water over them and rubbing about with brooms; there are better methods of preserving their good appearance than by the use of kerosene oil. If complete instructions showing materials, apparatus, and methods were printed and posted in barracks for the information of all concerned, the buildings would present much better appearance, and bills for repairs would be less. In this connection I may remark that it seems unwise to varnish floors of new barracks, as the varnish quickly becomes marred with the nails in boot heels and every little depression retains dirt when the floors are cleaned.

Condemnation of cavalry horses.—Whenever officers who are responsible for cavalry horses submit inventory and inspection reports with a view to condemnation said reports should, in my opinion, be forwarded to division headquarters with a view to action by an officer of the Inspector-General's Department. Under the present regulations there is no officer of the Inspector-General's Department located at department headquarters, and the regulations prohibit the department commander from sending an officer of the line or of any staff department from another post to make inspections. As a consequence an inspector is necessarily selected from the officers of the post at which the horses are located. My experience in the matter of inspection of cavalry horses (and to some extent also of small arms) has led me to believe that such inspectors may not always conserve the interests of the Government, but that a bias in favor of the appearance and efficiency of the organization or post to which the inspector belongs will warp his judgment, however honest and well intentioned he may be, and condemnation of horses which are not altogether unserviceable will be the result. Furthermore, by having the same officer make all such inspections, more uniform results will be attained.

Curb bits.—Of the several models of curb bits now in use by the cavalry none are found entirely satisfactory. At one post the curb bit is discarded altogether and the snaffle bit only used. The latest issue of curb chain is generally condemned, for the reason that it injures the horse's lips. In some cases a leather disk is used between the ends of the chain and horse's mouth to avoid such injury.

In my opinion, a better curb bit is most desirable, but I believe that generally the kind of bit is too often the subject of criticism; that a good horseman can manage his horse perfectly with any of the bits now in use.

Chaplains performing marriage ceremony for enlisted men.—As the enlistment or reenlistment of married men is discouraged, and Army Regulations provide that applications for such enlistments or reenlistments will be finally determined by the regimental commander, or other proper commanding officer if there be no regimental organization, I believe a chaplain exceeds his authority or at least passes the limits of propriety in performing the marriage ceremony for an enlisted man, thereby changing his status, unless the regimental commander has previously given his consent. In cases coming to my attention in this department I have expressed my views in accordance with the above.

REPORTS OF STAFF OFFICERS.

The reports of the chiefs of the staff departments at these headquarters covering the period July 1, 1904, to June 30, 1905, have been filed, and are summarized in the following:

MILITARY SECRETARY.

Tabular statements as follows: Headquarters personnel on June 30, 1905. (Appendix A.^a)

Changes in headquarters personnel, July 1, 1904, to June 30, 1905. (Appendix B.^a)

Troops serving in the department on June 30, 1905. (Appendix C.^a)

Changes and movements of troops, July 1, 1904, to June 30, 1905. (Appendix D.^a)

Strength of the command each month, July, 1904, to June, 1905. (Appendix E.^a)

Gains and loss in enlisted personnel, July 1, 1904, to June 30, 1905. (Appendix F.^a)

The total number of communications received, recorded, and filed or transmitted during the year was 14,873.

The total number of orders and circulars issued was: General orders, 44 (60 paragraphs); special orders, 257 (1,797 paragraphs); circulars, 25.

The clerical force of the office, which has been substantially the same throughout the year, was on June 30, 1905, 9 civil service clerks, and 3 enlisted men detailed from organizations serving in the department. This force may be said to be adequate to transact the current business of the office, but it gives a very small margin, if any, to meet unusual strain, or to provide for absence on account of sickness or other unavoidable cause, or absence with leave.

Furthermore, the success in discharging the business of the office with this force has been largely due to the faithful and efficient service of the chief clerk, Mr. Paul B. Harm, who has willingly given much overtime to his duties to insure prompt disposition of accumulations of papers. His general efficiency, faithfulness, and high character are well known to those with whom he has been associated; the military secretary adds his testimony thereof to the commendations of others, and recommends him for advancement at the earliest opportunity.

As remarked in last year's report, the work of the clerks of the military secretary's office is equal in importance to that performed by clerks of other staff departments, and their hours are, as a rule, longer. Yet their present status of pay is not commensurate in comparison with the other departments, is considered unfair, and causes much dissatisfaction.

The following comparative statement of salaries received by clerks at these headquarters illustrates the unfairness to which reference is made:

Military secretary's office: Chief clerk, at \$1,600 per annum; 2 clerks, at \$1,200 per annum; and 6 clerks, at \$1,000.

Chief quartermaster's office: Chief clerk, at \$1,800 per annum;

^a Omitted.

2 clerks at \$1,800 per annum, 1 at \$1,600, 1 at \$1,440, 2 at \$1,400, 3 at \$1,200, and 1 at \$900.

Chief commissary's office: Chief clerk at \$1,800 per annum; 2 clerks at \$1,200 per annum, and 1 at \$960.

Chief paymaster's office: All clerks from \$1,400 to \$1,800 per annum, according to length of service.

He again urgently recommends that the pay of the clerks of the military secretary's office be placed on the same basis as that of the other departments.

The card system of recording was adopted at these headquarters January 1, 1905, pursuant to telegraphic instructions from the War Department, dated December 14, 1904. The determination to change to the card system had been made several weeks prior to receipt of the telegram, the necessary filing cases, etc., were ready, and the system had been carefully studied; so its adoption took place without any interruption or inconvenience. It has proved very satisfactory, and has shown its value in the following advantages over the book system: Expedition in locating an old record; facility in withdrawing a complete record from the file for temporary use at any desk; more perfect supervision by the military secretary or the chief clerk, without interruption of work; easier character of the work by substitution of the typewriter for all pen work; distribution of the recording among several clerks instead of confining it to one, at a book.

It would appear to be advantageous to have a more complete and comprehensive list of indexing titles than that now furnished, the same for all headquarters, published by superior authority as an invariable guide.

The possibility of extending the duties of the military secretary's office so as to have that office at each headquarters the sole office of record suggests itself as a way of economizing in clerical labor. The card system allows of such distribution of the work among clerks and such close supervision by the military secretary that with sufficient clerical force he could be charged with all the recording, copying, filing, and tracing of documents, thus doing away with the similar processes on the same papers in the other staff departments, and at the same time having records available for the use of the other staff departments as fully as their own records are now. With such duties, however, the military secretary should be relieved from those which, under present conditions, bring him in close personal relation with the commanding general, the headquarters to have another officer as chief of staff for such duties.

JUDGE-ADVOCATE.

General courts-martial.

Trials of commissioned officers (1 officer tried 3 times, 1 twice, and 6 once):		
Convictions	7	
Acquittals (disapproved in 1 case)	3	
		10
Trials of enlisted men (33 noncommissioned officers and 671 privates):		
Convictions	630	
Acquittals	65	
Disapprovals	9	
		704
Total trials by general courts-martial		714
(Excess over preceding year, 102.)		

Charges duly referred to the several courts and pending July 1, 1905, 28.

Of the convictions, 387 were sentenced to be dishonorably discharged, and of this number 96 were sentenced on account of previous convictions. Fifteen men were tried by general court-martial more than once, and 83 were men belonging to other departments.

A tabular statement of the offenses tried by general courts-martial is given in Appendix G.^a

The following table affords a comparison of the average enlisted strength of the department and the number of trials by general courts-martial for the following years:

Year.	Average enlisted strength.	Trials by general courts-martial.	Percent.
1896-97	2,580	135	5.2
1901-2	3,569	359	10
1902-3	6,227	464	7.5
1903-4	7,017	607	8.6
1904-5	8,042	704	8.7½

Of these cases the most common crime—desertion—in 1897 furnished 10.8 per cent of the total number of cases tried; in 1902, 45 per cent; in 1903, 34.4 per cent; in 1904, 34.7 per cent, and in 1905, 33.2 per cent.

Desertions shown in this report:

Occurring after six months in service	141
Occurring before six months in service	93
Total	234

Garrison courts-martial.

Convictions	80
Acquittals	11
Total	41

Trials divided as follows:

Sergeants	13
Corporals	3
Privates	24
General prisoners	1
Total	41

In 16 cases, the court availed itself of its increased power in awarding sentences.

Summary courts-martial.

Trials divided as follows:

Convictions	8,171
Acquittals	254
Total	8,425

^a Omitted.

Trials divided as follows:

Sergeants	382
Corporals	532
Privates	7,511

Total	8,425
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Number of men tried—

12 times	1
10 times	2
8 times	9
7 times	26
6 times	50
5 times	155
4 times	274
3 times	517
2 times	1,031
1 time	2,355

Total number of men tried.....	4,420
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A tabular statement of the offenses tried by garrison and summary courts-martial is given in Appendix H.^a

Prisoners in confinement.

	General.	Garrison.	Total.
June 30—			
1904	190	185	364
1905	222	154	376

As affecting the above figures, it should be stated that prior to February 15 last, it was found necessary under orders for discontinuance of Jefferson Barracks, Mo., for prison purposes, to release 21 of the 69 general prisoners at that post, and in order to make room for transfers, 45 at other posts, in all 66 releases apportioned to the various posts according to merit. This reduction and recent additions to prison accommodations have relieved the congested conditions referred to in last report, and owing moreover to extensive improvements, road construction, etc., in progress at various posts, a constant demand prevails from such source for the maximum allowance of general prisoners for this work as well as that of general fatigue. Such a request has recently come from Jefferson Barracks, resulting in a modification of previous orders and permitting the retention of 20 general prisoners at that post. The last reports from there show only 15 garrison prisoners, 1 general, and 3 casuals, though it appears that proposed additions to the guardhouse will shortly increase its capacity from 80 prisoners to 140.

Escapes of prisoners throughout the year have been 41 general prisoners, and 2 awaiting trial or result of trial under serious charges, as against 60 of the former and 11 of the latter for the preceding year.

The increasing number of trials by inferior courts manifests an objectionable tendency to resort to the latter as the sole method of maintaining discipline to the exclusion of minor punishments com-

^a Omitted.

mended in the regulations, and such practice, far from suggesting a desirable state of discipline in a command, is, to the contrary effect, an admission that the lesser means have failed. A demoralizing rather than a beneficial effect, especially as applied to the recruit, is seen in thus persistently subjecting a man to trial for every offense however trifling, and the tendency in this respect should be discouraged in favor of a more intelligent compliance with the requirements of the regulations.

Desertions again furnish a marked proportion (about one-third) of the general courts-martial trials for the year, to account for which the cause primarily must be attributed to the character of the recruit and incidentally to the effect upon the soldier of his changed conditions, the unaccustomed restraint, discipline, etc., and perhaps still more to his exposure when off duty to the pernicious influence of the low dives and vicious gambling and drinking resorts infesting the neighborhood of most of the posts, it appearing in this connection that a great majority of desertions trace their history to drunkenness induced by such environment.

Trials for selling Government clothing, as shown herein, afford but a slight index of the volume of this business carried on and promoted by unscrupulous dealers. Frequent complaints from the posts and facts brought out at trials show an alarming prevalence of this trade, such dealers evincing an entire disregard of the purpose of the law covering this question and frequently encouraging its violation by the soldier. This practice has grown to such proportions that the good of the service, as well as the pecuniary interest of the Government, call for adequate amendment of the statute (section 5438, R. S.) making the purchase or receiving in pledge of such property a penal offense.

One feature worthy of note in this and previous reports is the number of dishonorable discharges imposed, based upon five previous convictions. The facilities offered by this provision of the Executive order seem to have unduly encouraged this method of forcing men out of the service, and on the other hand the short confinement incident to such sentence has made this a popular means of discharge with the discontented enlisted man. This abuse, however, has apparently come under observance of higher authorities, and the judge-advocate anticipates that the recent amendments to the Executive order bearing on this question will effectively meet the objections noted.

Touching the question of jurisdiction of military courts-martial, the following decisions have been obtained in the United States Federal courts during the year in cases in which the judge-advocate was duly notified to appear in conjunction with the United States attorney. Each involved the right of the military authorities to the custody of a military prisoner and was tested upon an application for a writ of habeas corpus.

First. In the case of general prisoner Richard Townsend, late private Troop A, Third Cavalry, who deserted January 8, 1899, it was decided in the United States district court of Nebraska, (*a*) that said date, in contemplation of the article, was a time of war with Spain; (*b*) that the Statute of Limitations (103d A. W.) did not apply to desertions in time of war; and (*c*) that the decision of the general court-martial on the question of the operation of the Statute of Limitations was final and could not be reviewed in the proceedings at bar.

Second. In the case of John Thorne, applying for release of his minor son, Private William Thorne, Troop F, Fifteenth Cavalry, confined under charges for desertion, the United States district court of Kansas held, as against the right of the parent to the custody of such minor child, that the latter after enlistment was liable to trial and punishment for offenses committed during such enlistment.

Third. In the case (before the United States circuit court, district of Kansas) of general prisoner Fred Hamilton, formerly Troop K, Sixth Cavalry, who was convicted by a general court-martial at Pekin, China, of murder of a corporal of the same troop, committed December 23, 1900, near Pekin, while serving with the United States troops on the China Relief Expedition, the question raised was the application of the fifty-eighth article of war in giving the general court-martial jurisdiction of such offense. It was held by the court that a state of war then and there existed within the spirit and intent of the article, thereby giving jurisdiction to the general court-martial trying the offense and legality of the sentence imposed.

The prisoner in each case was remanded to the custody of the military authorities.

CHIEF QUARTERMASTER.

Lieut. Col. J. Estcourt Sawyer, deputy quartermaster-general, U. S. Army, was chief quartermaster from July 1, 1904, to June 30, 1905, excepting from October 17, 1904, to January 10, 1905, when Maj. M. Gray Zalinski, quartermaster, U. S. Army, was assigned to the station.

The following reports are made from data in the office:

Funds on hand, received, and disbursed.—(See Appendix I.)^a

Troops, public property; and animals transported.—Passengers, 10,544; animals, 962; property, including quartermaster supplies, subsistence stores, ordnance stores, medical stores, signal stores, and miscellaneous, 31,514,882 pounds.

Public animals received, purchased, transferred, etc.—Number of animals on hand June 30, 1904, 5,350; received during the year, 2,164; transferred, etc. (962 transferred), 1,471; remaining on hand June 30, 1905, of which 3,756 are cavalry horses, 788 artillery horses, 160 draft horses, 1,135 draft mules, 204 pack mules, 6,043.

CHIEF COMMISSARY.

Funds.—Received, \$254,634.54; disbursed, \$252,138.22; balance, \$2,496.32.

The disbursements in 1905 are \$26,495 less than those of 1904.

Stores.—All stores for Forts Crook, Des Moines, Meade, Niobrara, Robinson, and Washakie are purchased at Omaha. The stores for Forts D. A. Russell and Mackenzie, Wyo., are supplied largely from Denver, Chicago, San Francisco, and Omaha. The stores for Jefferson Barracks are supplied from St. Louis, and those for Forts Leavenworth and Riley from St. Louis and Kansas City. Previous to the 1st of January, 1905, the stores for Fort Washakie, Wyo., were supplied from various purchasing stations, but upon the recommendation of this office the Commissary-General of the Army authorized the

^a Omitted.

chief commissary to call upon the purchasing commissary at Omaha for all stores for this post. In view of the fact that all stores for this post must be transported by wagon for 140 miles, the plan of having all stores supplied from one purchasing station works to better advantage, in that an entire shipment arrives at the point of transfer at one time and can be sent forward at once. Attention is invited to the fact that there is a clause in the contract for the shipment of stores from Casper, Wyo., to Fort Washakie which requires the contractor to give preference to Indians in hiring transportation. This clause has resulted in delays in sending stores forward from Casper, the Indians refusing to work only when weather conditions are favorable.

Shipments made by the purchasing commissary, Omaha.—There was shipped during the year a total of 3,967,130 pounds of stores. Of the above there was shipped to Manila: Bacon, issue, 40,701 pounds; beef, corned, 2-pound cans, 11,520 cans; hams, D. S. C., 30,264 pounds; lard, 5-pound cans, 27,228 cans; sausage, Vienna, 2-pound cans, 6,000 cans, and tongue, beef, 2-pound cans, 2,016 cans.

Fresh beef.—For the six months ending December 31, 1904, beef was furnished to seven of the posts of the department by local butchers and at four by the large packing houses. The lowest price for this period was at Fort Washakie, Wyo., \$4.75 per hundred, and the highest at Fort Mackenzie, Wyo., 7 cents per pound. For the six months ending June 30, five of the posts were supplied with beef by local dealers and six by the large packing houses. The highest price during this period was at Fort Mackenzie, Wyo., \$8.45 per hundred, and the lowest price at Fort Crook, Nebr., \$5.46. It became necessary to reject all bids submitted for the furnishing of fresh beef to the post of Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo., for the period ending June 30, 1905, the lowest price received being 9.1 cents per pound. A new advertisement was prepared and so worded as to permit of more competition, and the result was the same party was awarded the contract at 7.25 cents per pound, with a saving of \$2,422.39 to the Government in six months. There have been no complaints as to the quality of beef supplied by any of the contractors.

Savings.—Post commissaries purchased 338,595 pounds of bacon as savings during the past year of 689,000 pounds issued. This was almost 50 per cent of the total amount issued. There were 892,256 pounds of flour saved, about 30 per cent.

Forty-one per cent of the coffee ration, 17 per cent of the sugar ration, 28 per cent of the vinegar ration, 15 per cent of the salt ration, 12 per cent of the pepper ration, and 23 per cent of the soap ration were purchased as savings by commissaries during the year.

Fresh vegetables.—Last fall the winter supply of fresh vegetables was stored for eight of the posts of the department and contracts made for supplying three posts as required. There was very little loss at any of the posts from storing vegetables for the winter. It is believed that this plan is much cheaper than making a contract for vegetables. The Subsistence Department has been endeavoring to secure the construction of a root cellar at Fort Riley, Kans., for over a year. Plans were sent to Washington in May last for a root cellar at that post, and its early construction is urged as absolutely necessary for the proper supply of that post with vegetables during the coming winter.

Cost of the ration.—There were 3,032,205 rations issued in this department during the year at an average cost of 14.986 cents per ration, and at a total cost of \$454,417.20.

Expenses for clerk hire, etc.—During the year there was paid out by the chief commissary for salary of clerks, messengers, and laborers in that office and the office of the purchasing commissary at Omaha, \$8,019.99. During the previous year there were paid for the same purposes \$9,747.59, a saving during the past year of \$1,727.60.

Losses and gains in handling stores.

Loss by wastage, ordinary, at posts-----	\$1, 245. 36	
Loss by condemnation and surveys-----	1, 897. 28	
		\$3, 142. 64
Of this amount there was a loss of \$189.60 on potatoes and onions at posts where vegetables were stored for the winter months. This, it is considered, should be deducted -----		
	189. 60	
Returned to contractors, stores condemned-----	8. 22	
		197. 82
Total losses-----		2, 944. 82
Gains by stores taken up-----	1, 013. 35	
Gains by cash taken up-----	38. 79	
Gains by sale at auction-----	1. 50	
		1, 053. 64
Net loss-----		1, 891. 18

Of this net loss \$1,686.78 was by fire in the post bakery at Fort Leavenworth, Kans., which destroyed a lot of flour belonging to the Subsistence Department, which had been stored there in an emergency, the new subsistence storehouse not having been completed.

Inspection of bacon for other purchasing commissaries.—This office has, during the year, inspected, during the process of curing and smoking, 285,000 pounds of bacon for the purchasing commissary at Vancouver Barracks, Wash., and 47,000 pounds for the purchasing commissary, Denver, Colo.

Recommendations.—At posts where there is no regimental commissary, the squadron or battalion commissary should be assigned to duty as post commissary.

At posts where it is practicable to do so, ice houses should be furnished and troops required to store ice for use during the summer months. The prices which the Subsistence Department is called upon to pay at most of the posts is considered very high. At large posts like Forts Leavenworth and Riley, ice machines should be installed.

It is thought that if a chief commissary could be permitted to visit the posts in his department, that great good would result therefrom. By so doing he could acquire a knowledge of conditions at and near the post, see what are the storage facilities at the post, and acquaint himself with the local supply conditions of the surrounding country and nearby towns. Such a knowledge would be of great value to a supply officer.

CHIEF SURGEON.

Col. Charles C. Byrne, assistant surgeon-general, U. S. Army, was chief surgeon of the department from July 1, 1904, until his

departure for the Philippine Islands on May 26, 1905. On this latter date Contract Surg. William H. Ramsey, U. S. Army, was assigned to temporary charge of the office. The data comprising this report are compiled solely from the official reports by the medical officers on duty in the department.

Medical officers.—At the close of the fiscal year there were 20 medical officers, 8 contract surgeons, and 2 contract dental surgeons on duty in the department.

Hospital Corps.—The personnel of the Hospital Corps on June 30, 1905, consisted of sergeants, first class, 16; sergeants, 22; corporal, 1; lance corporals, 3; privates, first class, 70; and privates, 101; total, 213. There were also 1 sergeant, 2 privates, first class, and 1 private on duty with contract dental surgeons.

The changes in personnel were as follows: Reenlistment, 27; enlistment, 18; transfer, 87; enlisted outside department, 10; from desertion 2; total, 144.

Discharged by expiration of term of service, 113; on surgeon's certificate of disability, 4; by purchase, 4; dishonorably, 8; without honor and for good of the service, 1 each; deserted, 16, and transferred, 16; total, 163.

The aggregate number of hospital corps men at the end of the fiscal year was 39 noncommissioned officers and 174 privates, the number to which this department was entitled being 47 noncommissioned officers and 192 privates, a shortage of 8 noncommissioned officers and 18 privates. Thirteen applicants were examined for appointment as sergeants, and of these 8 were successful.

Strength of command.—As shown by the post surgeons' numerical statements, the mean strength of troops in the department for the year has been 437 officers and 5,911 enlisted men.

The civilian attachés have averaged 1,652; of this number 567 were men, 585 women, and 500 children. Sixty births and 15 deaths among civilians were reported during the year.

Health and sanitation.—The monthly reports of medical officers show that the sanitary condition of the several posts in the department has been good. At Fort Crook, Nebr., complaint was made that the guardhouse was overcrowded, due to the large number of prisoners brought to that post by reason of desertion and sentence of general court-martial. These conditions were somewhat relieved by the transfer of prisoners to other and less crowded posts in the department. Malarial fever, intermittent, was prevalent at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., during the months of September, October, and November, 1904, caused by infection from mosquitoes. All standing water in vicinity of post was sprayed with petroleum twice a week, which undoubtedly caused an abatement of the disease. The barracks for recruits are frequently reported as overcrowded, and also that the plumbing in barracks and guardhouse are in poor condition. The water supply at this post is not fit for use until boiled or otherwise sterilized.

Seven cases of typhoid were reported at Fort Leavenworth, Kans., during month of August, six of these cases occurring in the artillery, returned from the rifle range at Fort Riley, Kans. The crematory established at this post now satisfactorily disposes of all garbage and other dangerous wastes. The water supply has been

greatly improved since the installment of the filtration plant by the waterworks company in December, 1904, since which time no case of typhoid fever has occurred at post, and it is predicted that typhoid fever, which has been epidemic at this station for many years, will now cease, only sporadic cases appearing. The sterilization of water is no longer necessary, although desirable on account of lime.

An epidemic of mumps prevailed at Fort Meade, S. Dak., during March and April among a large number of recruits received at post. In July, 1904, the sick report was swelled by cases of recruits who had diseases and disabilities contracted prior to enlistment, due apparently to gross carelessness in making enlistments.

A like condition also exists at Fort Niobrara, Nebr., where 12 men recently enlisted were discharged during June for disabilities which existed at time of enlistment. At Fort Riley, Kans., a mild grade of smallpox appeared in December; 4 cases of mumps and an extensive epidemic of influenza in January, 1905.

Water and sewerage system at Fort Washakie, Wyo., is reported by the surgeon as very bad, and the establishment of a sewer system at post to replace the present unsanitary system of privy pits and cesspools is greatly needed.

At the extreme western posts of Forts Robinson, Niobrara, Mackenzie, and Washakie acute catarrhal inflammation of the respiratory organs is still a source of great annoyance during the winter months, due to climatic conditions, frequent changes in temperature, and dust raised by the high winds.

The tables presented as Appendixes K^a and L^a furnish additional data bearing directly or indirectly upon the subjects of health and sanitation. A comparison of these tables with those of last year shows that Fort D. A. Russell has the lowest percentage of sickness, 2.1 per cent, closely followed by Forts Niobrara, Mackenzie, Riley, Robinson, and Washakie, in the order named, none of whose non-effective strength exceeds 2.8 per cent. Jefferson Barracks has the highest percentage, 7.3 per cent. This, however, is attributable to the large number of recruits treated for vaccinia (437), exceeding by more than one-half the total number of other diseases at the post. The malaria cases in the department number 416, making the percentage from this cause slightly lower than that of last year. There were but 26 cases of typhoid fever as against 86 the preceding year; 15 of the cases were at Fort Leavenworth, where the disease, formerly epidemic, has practically ceased, not a case being reported since December, 1904.

The percentage of noneffectiveness through sickness in the department has again been lowered this year to 3 per cent, the percentage of former years being 12.6 per cent, 8.2 per cent, and 4 per cent.

Discharges for disability.—Two hundred and sixty-nine enlisted men were discharged for disability; of this number 78 originated in the line of duty, 191 were not contracted in line of duty, and the disability of 137 cases existed prior to enlistment, amounting to more than 50 per cent of the number discharged. The causes of discharge in many of the cases indicate gross neglect in the matter of proper medical examination of recruits. The following is a list of disabilities for which the discharges were made: Venereal diseases, 61; re-

^a Omitted.

sult of injuries, 42; hernia, 24; bunions, corns, etc., 23; cardiac diseases, 20; eye, diseases of, 17; mental deficiency, 10; ear, diseases of, 10; epilepsy, 9; poor physique, 8; diarrhea and dysentery, 5; appendicitis, 5; varicocele, 4; hysteria, 3; ichthyosis, 3; rheumatism, atrophy of muscles, convulsions, varicose veins, gastritis, asthma, goiter, tuberculosis, and morphinism, 2 each, and rectal abscess, monophlegia (right arm), nephritis, neuritis, curvature of spine, anthracosis, and loss of teeth, 1 each.

Deaths.—There were 42 deaths during the year, 11 less than preceding year. Thirty-one occurred in line of duty and 11 not in line of duty. Following is list of causes: Pneumonia, 7; cardiac diseases, 4; fracture of skull, 4; drowning, 3; suicide, 3; peritonitis, 4; tuberculosis, 3; gunshot wound, typhoid fever, and frozen to death, 2 each; run over by wagon, chronic gastroenteritis, nephritis, kicked by horse, murder, gangrene, alcoholism, and poisoned by wood alcohol, 1 each; total, 42.

Transferred to general hospitals.—The following transfers were made from post hospitals to general hospital under provisions of Army Regulations, 1474, as amended by General Orders, No. 189, War Department, series 1904:

Hot Springs, Ark.: Rheumatism, 16; gastritis, 3; diarrhea, 1; nephritis, 2; neuritis, 1; callus following fracture of leg, 1, and phlegmasia alba dolens, 1; total, 25. All of these diseases were contracted in line of duty, except one case of chronic muscular rheumatism, which existed prior to enlistment.

Fort Bayard, N. Mex.: Tuberculosis, 30. All but one of these cases were contracted in line of duty, the other existing at time of enlistment.

Presidio of San Francisco, Cal.: Hepatic colic, chronic cholangitis, and chronic gastro-duodenditis, 1.

Nine other cases of transfers were made, as follows:

Insane Asylum, Washington, D. C.: Insanity, 7. All contracted in line of duty, one being a retired soldier.

General Hospital, Washington, D. C.: For X-ray treatment and tuberculosis, cutia, 1 each.

Hospital, and sergeants' (first-class) quarters and allotments therefor.—Allotments from the appropriations for the fiscal year 1904-5 were made as follows:

Hospitals: Fort Crook, \$769; Fort Des Moines, \$77.42; Jefferson Barracks, \$1,394; Fort Leavenworth, \$560; Fort Mackenzie, \$303.17; Fort Meade, \$1,379.55; Fort Niobrara, \$678.50; Fort Riley, \$869.25; Fort Robinson, \$1,143; Fort Washakie, \$338.

Sergeants' (first class) quarters: Fort Crook, \$94; Jefferson Barracks, \$55; Fort Mackenzie, \$229.77; Fort Meade, \$178.45; Fort Robinson, \$59, and Fort Washakie, \$68.

Total allotment to hospitals, \$7,511.89; to quarters, \$684.22; aggregate, \$8,196.11.

In addition to above the Secretary of War has authorized \$3,300 to erect a new set of quarters for sergeants (first class) at Fort Robinson, Nebr. Bids have also been approved for erection of a new hospital at Fort Riley, Kans., an allotment of \$39,600 from current appropriation being made for this purpose.

Plans and specifications have also been prepared and forwarded to

the Quartermaster-General, requesting that proposals be invited for construction of a new hospital at Fort Mackenzie, Wyo., at a cost not exceeding \$20,000.

CHIEF PAYMASTER.

Officers of the Pay Department on duty in the department during the year: Lieut. Col. John C. Muhlenberg, chief paymaster of the department; on duty at Omaha, Nebr., as chief paymaster of the department since August 18, 1902. Maj. Jerome A. Watrous; station, Omaha, Nebr.; retired from active service, by operation of law, September 6, 1904. Maj. Otto Becker; station, St. Louis, Mo. Capt. John M. Sigworth; station, Kansas City, Mo.; reported for duty in the department March 21, 1905. Capt. James Canby; station, St. Louis, Mo.; on temporary duty at Thoroughfare, Va., September 4 to 13, 1904; left St. Louis, Mo., December 14, 1904, en route to take station at San Francisco, Cal. Capt. John R. Lynch; station, Omaha, Nebr. Capt. Bradner D. Slaughter; station, Omaha, Nebr.; on temporary duty at Thoroughfare, Va., August 31 to September 18, 1904; on temporary duty at Kansas City, Mo., from October 14, 1904, to March 22, 1905. Capt. Henry B. Dixon; station, Omaha, Nebr.; reported for duty in the department October 5, 1904. Capt. George W. Moses; station, Kansas City, Mo.; relieved from duty in the department February 6, 1905; left Kansas City, Mo., February 8, 1905, en route for San Francisco, Cal.

Statement showing the amount of public funds received and disbursed during the year.

Received:

Balance June 30, 1904.....	\$76,862.23
From Treasurer United States.....	2,296,000.00
From paymasters.....	2,901,410.06
From soldiers' deposits.....	116,325.17
From collections.....	123,970.14

Total 5,514,567.00

Expended:

Payments to troops.....	3,514,030.72
Transferred to other paymasters.....	1,702,776.81
Collections deposited to credit of Treasurer United States.....	123,970.14
Unexpended balances deposited to credit of Treasurer United States.....	2,442.11
Balance in hands of paymasters June 30, 1905.....	171,347.82

Total..... 5,514,567.00

All payments to officers and enlisted men in the department have been regularly and promptly made.

CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER.

Visual signaling.—The need for visual signaling by troops in the field has, during the past few years, been materially lessened, due to the rapid development of the field telegraph, the telephone, and other electrical appliances, yet in many cases which are liable to occur at any time in the field the use of the flag, the heliograph, or the lantern is not only important, but absolutely necessary.

In compliance with paragraph 1594, Army Regulations, and Gen-

eral Orders, No. 33, Headquarters Northern Division, 1904, which requires two men in each troop, company, and battery to be able to exchange messages at short distances with the flag, practical instruction in visual signaling has been given at each post in the department during the fiscal year, the reports received from post signal officers showing 166, 108, and 91 officers and men proficient in the use of the flag, heliograph, and acetylene lantern, respectively.

United States military telegraph lines.—The department contains two United States military telegraph lines handling "other-line business," viz, a loop 4½ miles in length connecting the post of Fort Niobrara with the commercial company at Valentine, Nebr., and a similar short loop connecting the post at Jefferson Barracks with the telegraph office of the Iron Mountain Railroad.

Reports from Jefferson Barracks line have been rendered only since May, 1905.

The total number of messages handled over these lines was 1,786; cash receipts, \$373.35.

For the rapid transaction of post business and for purposes of practical instruction the following telegraph lines were constructed during the year: Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo., 1½ miles; Fort Des Moines, Iowa, 1½ miles; and Fort Riley, Kans., 1,000 yards.

During the year the services of the civilian operator heretofore employed at Fort Niobrara have been dispensed with and the place filled by an enlisted man of the Signal Corps.

Telephone systems.—For the purpose of establishing uniformity and providing efficient modern means of communication on target ranges for small-arms practice, a standard Signal Corps telephone equipment, approved by the Chief of Staff, United States Army, was prescribed by Orders No. 8, War Department, Signal Office, Washington, April 16, 1904.

During the fiscal year standard target-range systems have been installed at Forts D. A. Russell, Wyo.; Des Moines, Iowa; Leavenworth, Kans.; Meade, S. Dak.; Riley, Kans., and Robinson, Nebr.

Requisitions for the necessary material for the equipment for Forts Mackenzie, Niobrara, and Washakie have been forwarded, and the standard system will be installed at those posts during the coming year.

The local post telephone systems in the department comprise 174 telephones and 61 miles of line, 18 miles of which were constructed during the fiscal year. These post systems, maintained in compliance with General Orders, No. 59, War Department, 1905, have been of great use in facilitating the speedy transaction of the daily routine business of the posts, obviating the use of many orderlies and enlisted men needed with their companies.

Conservative estimates rendered by post signal officers show a daily average of 1,144 messages handled, making a yearly aggregate of over 400,000 messages transmitted.

Enlisted personnel.—On June 30, 1905, eight enlisted men of the Signal Corps were on duty in the department performing technical duties in connection with post telegraph, telephone, and target range systems. With the exception of one unusual case of desertion, the conduct and efficiency of the enlisted men of the Signal Corps in the

department has been favorably commented upon by post signal officers.

Officers in charge of the office of the chief signal officer.—From the beginning of the fiscal year until May 24, 1905, the chief signal officer of the department was First Lieut. W. L. Karnes, Sixth Cavalry, aid-de-camp, to whom the Signal Corps is much indebted for valuable services.

On May 25, Lieutenant Karnes was relieved by Capt. C. McK. Saltzman, Signal Corps.

During the absence on leave of the chief signal officer of the department, from May 25 to June 29, the affairs of the office were ably and efficiently managed by First Lieut. Charles C. Allen, Thirtieth Infantry, aid-de-camp.

INSPECTOR OF SMALL-ARMS PRACTICE.

The results of target practice of troops in the department, published in General Orders, No. 6, these headquarters, 1905, were excellent, and very much higher than in the previous year. The number qualifying in each class is compared with other years, as follows:

	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.
Expert riflemen	46	5	—	—
Sharpshooters	300	144	143	43
Marksmen	384	133	131	45
First class	1,109	470	366	184
Second class	1,758	1,036	713	420
Third class	2,558	2,376	2,201	1,501

The corresponding percentages of the whole number qualifying are as follows:

	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.
Expert riflemen	0.75	0.11	—	—
Sharpshooters	4.91	8.00	4.00	2.10
Marksmen	5.47	2.80	3.50	2.30
First-class men	18.17	9.90	11.30	8.99
Second-class men	23.80	23.00	20.60	20.40
Third-class men	41.90	61.20	60.70	68.40

The above results show that in 1904 a larger percentage qualified in the higher classes than in any previous year. In 1903 the practice was conducted under new regulations which possibly accounts for the low percentage obtained that year in the higher classes. The very high results obtained in 1904, when officers and men had become more familiar with the new regulations, seem to show that under the new regulations greater interest was taken in target practice than in previous years when the firing was carried on under the old regulations.

The names of competitors from the department who obtained places on the division (northern) and army teams in 1904 are stated in Appendix L.^a

^a Omitted.

The annual allotment of funds for repairs of target ranges in the department for 1904-5 was \$14,896. Of this sum, \$9,645 was allotted to Fort Leavenworth and \$2,826.05 to the Arcadia range (Jefferson Barracks). The remainder was distributed among other posts of the department.

Allotments to the total amount of \$7,175 from the appropriation for shooting galleries and ranges for construction and repair work on ranges in this department have been made as follows by the Chief of Staff and approved by the Secretary of War for the fiscal year 1906:

Range at—	Character of work.	Allotment.
Fort Crook	Protected range	\$3,500
	Repairs	500
Fort D. A. Russell.....	Material	250
Jefferson Barracks (range at Arcadia, Mo.).	Five closets for sinks; grading range; fence; new road.....	1,000
Fort Mackenzie	Material	800
Fort Meade	Material for repairing butt, walks, and pits; target house; also excavating and repairing.....	700
Fort Niobrara.....	Material for repairs to butts, etc.....	150
Fort Robinson.....	Material for repairs to butts, telephone boxes, etc	200
Fort Washakie	Material for extension of butt	75
	Total	7,175

Forts Des Moines, Leavenworth, and Riley are omitted in the above list. In the case of Fort Des Moines, a special appropriation has been made for the construction of a new range. At Fort Leavenworth it is proposed to relocate the line of fire of the range, and authority for this has been granted. Estimates were forwarded, approved, calling for \$4,402.50, in addition to \$9,500 previously allotted to Fort Leavenworth for this purpose. As Fort Leavenworth is not mentioned in the above list, it is possible that its needs may be made the subject of a special appropriation. The estimates for repairs and extension of target range at Fort Riley, as forwarded approved, amounted to \$492.54, but in the above statement of allotments Fort Riley is not mentioned.

In the season of 1904 the Fort Crook troops practiced on a range at Omaha Indian Reservation, but owing to the unsatisfactory range, its great distance from the post—90 miles—and the difficulty, inconvenience, and expense of transporting troops and supplies, the practice there has been discontinued.

During the past year continued efforts were made to obtain a suitable target range for the Fort Crook troops within a convenient distance to that post, but all were without result. An appropriation of \$3,500 has been made for a protected range for that post.

Practice for this year is now being carried on, but only a few reports have as yet been received, these few being from the First Battalion of Engineers, which is under orders for change of station to the Philippine Islands and San Francisco.

The standard target telephone system has been installed on the ranges at Forts D. A. Russell, Des Moines, Leavenworth, Meade, Riley, Robinson, and Jefferson Barracks. Requisitions for the necessary material for the equipment of ranges at Forts Mackenzie,

Niobrara, and Washakie have been forwarded, and the installation will be completed during the coming year.

The officers in charge made no personal inspection of the target practice as contemplated in paragraph 271, Firing Regulations, Small Arms, 1904.

The following officers have been in charge of the office during the year: First Lieut. William L. Karnes, Sixth Cavalry, aid-de-camp, from July 1, 1904, to May 31, 1905; First Lieut. Charles C. Allen, Thirtieth Infantry, aid-de-camp, from May 31, 1905, to July 1, 1905.

Very respectfully,

THEO. J. WINT,

Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding Department.

THE MILITARY SECRETARY,
War Department.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA,
St. Paul, Minn., August 29, 1905.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report for the year ending June 30, 1905:

On that date the troops in the department were the Third Regiment of Cavalry (except one troop), four troops of the Sixth Cavalry, the Seventh Battalion of Field Artillery, and the Twenty-fourth and Twenty-eighth Regiments of Infantry. During the year the Twenty-first Infantry left the department, the Twenty-eighth taking its place, and two troops of the Third Cavalry arrived from the Department of the Colorado.

Frequent practice marches and exercises in minor tactics have been held during the year, as well as the prescribed target practice and other practical exercises. All these, as well as the other duties of the troops, have been conducted with zeal and attention to regulations and orders.

During the year damage by fire to the amount of about \$4,000 has been done to Government and post exchange property at Forts Assiniboine, Harrison, and Keogh.

The discipline of the troops, as evidenced by the number of trials, has not varied greatly from that of the previous year, the trials in fiscal year 1905 being 2,514, as against 2,563 in 1904, the strength of the department being 2,542 for 1905 and 2,470 for 1904.

Desertions for the year aggregate 298, or 11.72 per cent of the average strength, as against 335, or 13.56 per cent, for 1904. I have no extended theories to present as to the causes of the desertions. The subject is not a new one, and no one remedy is likely to eradicate the evil. Perhaps the most potent factor in causing desertions is the regard in which an enlistment in the Army is held by the average American citizen. I believe that in time of peace most of our people look on an enlistment as a contract merely, and desertion as nothing more grave than a breach of contract. A more severe punishment for the crime, for such it is, and an inflexible policy of not condoning the offense in any way, might possibly cause our people to view the subject in a different light.

The chief commissary reports losses from wastage and condemnation as about \$1,500 out of a total valuation of commissary supplies of not less than \$200,000, or about three-fourths of 1 per cent. I regard this as a very good showing, especially in view of the severe winters experienced at all the posts in the department, where deterioration of vegetables is inevitably large.

The health of the troops has been in general very good, due in great part doubtless to the general excellence of the water at the various posts. But 45 cases of malarial fever were reported, and but 3 of typhoid fever. But 57 men were discharged on surgeon's certificate

of disability, or but a little over 2 per cent, and of these 57, 17 were for disability existing prior to enlistment, and 23 more for disability not in line of duty, leaving but 17 chargeable against incidents of service, or only about two-thirds of 1 per cent. But 18 deaths occurred during the year, or about 7 per 1,000, and of these 18, 6 were due to accidents.

The duties of the various staff departments have been efficiently performed, but as these duties were almost all entirely routine, extended comment is not necessary.

From a personal examination of the situation I am of the opinion that Fort Yellowstone should be made a four-troop post. To effect this, so far as accommodations are concerned, but one additional barrack and one stable will be necessary. The travel in the park is increasing year by year. On August 15 of this year, with nearly six weeks of the tourist season to run, there had been about 18,000 visitors, while for the whole season of 1904 there were but about 14,000. There will probably be over 30,000 for the entire season of 1905. The duties that the troops are called on to perform as park guards have been accordingly increased, and the addition recommended is certainly none too much.

I further recommend that in no case shall the entire garrison of Fort Yellowstone be removed at one time. If the garrison be increased to four troops, but two of these should be relieved in one year. The duties which these troops are called on to perform require special and careful instruction, in order that they may perform them in a tactful and satisfactory manner without causing any irritation in the minds of the visitors to the park. To have all troops changed at the same time results in detriment to all the interests involved.

I desire to invite attention to the grave injury to the service due to the large number of officers habitually absent from their commands. This absenteeism in some cases is so great that there is not left even one officer per organization for company duty. While the duties on which the absent officers are engaged are doubtless important, I can hardly conceive that in general they are any more important than duty with troops. If it be for the best interests of the service to have so many officers on detached duty, there should be some system by which the places of most of them could be supplied. To this end it would appear that there should be the same system as now obtains for the "detailed staff." This system should be extended, in my opinion, to all officers on duty as instructors at the Military Academy and the various service schools, to officers on the General Staff, to the attachés at foreign legations, and to officers on duty at colleges. Officers on recruiting duty, student officers at the various service schools, and aids-de-camp should not be included among those whose places should be filled by promotion or appointment. The scheme would entail, I realize, a considerable number of additional officers, but it would be for the best interests of the service, for underofficered companies are sure to deteriorate, and no amount of valuable service rendered by officers on detached duty can compensate for the lowering of the standard of efficiency of troops of the line.

C. C. C. CARR,

Brigadier-General, United States Army.

THE MILITARY SECRETARY,

War Department.

REPORT SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION.

REPORT SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION.

HEADQUARTERS SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION,
Oklahoma City, Okla., August 1, 1905.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the affairs and administration of the Southwestern Division for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1905, and also such recommendations and remarks on the subject of military administration as would seem to the best interests of the service:

I assumed command of the division on April 25, 1905, in compliance with General Orders, No. 60, current series, War Department, and per General Orders, No. 7, current series, these headquarters, relieving Maj. Gen. S. S. Sumner, U. S. Army, on said date.

On June 30 the personal and division staffs were composed as follows:

Personal staff.—First Lieut. H. A. Drum, Twenty-seventh Infantry, aid, inspector of small-arms practice; First Lieut. E. S. Sayer, jr., Twenty-first Infantry, aid, acting quartermaster.

Division staff.—Chief of staff, Lieut. Col. Walter S. Schuyler, General Staff; assistant to the chief of staff, Capt. John C. Oakes, General Staff; military secretary, Lieut. Col. James S. Pettit, Military Secretary's Department; inspector-general, Lieut. Col. Frank West, Inspector-General's Department; assistant to the inspector-general, Maj. Leonard A. Lovering, Inspector-General's Department; chief engineer officer, Capt. John C. Oakes, Corps of Engineers, General Staff; attending surgeon, Contract Surg. F. S. Dewey.

The following changes in the division staff have taken place during the fiscal year:

Chief of staff.—Lieut. Col. Henry A. Greene, General Staff, relieved April 1, 1905, and succeeded by Lieut. Col. Walter S. Schuyler, General Staff, per paragraph 13, Special Orders, No. 66, War Department, 1905.

Assistant to chief of staff.—Capt. John J. Pershing, General Staff, detailed as member of Army War College, General Orders, No. 155, War Department, 1904; left Oklahoma city, October 22, 1904.

Inspectors-general.—Lieut. Col. Frank West, Inspector-General's Department, relieved per paragraph 1, Special Orders, No. 148, War Department; had not left these headquarters June 30, 1905. Maj. Augustus P. Blocksom, Inspector-General's Department, detailed for duty at these headquarters by paragraph 1, Special Orders, No. 148, 1905, War Department; had not reported for duty on June 30, 1905.

Inspector of small-arms practice.—Capt. E. P. Jervey, jr., Tenth Cavalry, aid, relieved, and First Lieut. H. A. Drum, Twenty-seventh Infantry, aid, detailed as per General Orders, No. 8, 1905, Southwestern Division, April 26, 1905.

Regular troops.—The regular troops serving in the division are composed of the following:

Cavalry.—Headquarters, band, and 12 troops of the First; headquarters, band, and 12 troops of the Fifth, and 4 troops of the Eighth Regiments, aggregating 28 troops and 2 bands. (The 4 troops of the Eighth Cavalry leave division in July for Philippine service and will be replaced by 4 troops of the Thirteenth Cavalry.)

Field Artillery.—The Second, Twelfth, Fifteenth, and Twenty-second batteries, aggregating 4 batteries. (The Eighth, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Twenty-first batteries temporarily in division until November 1, 1905.)

Coast Artillery.—The Fourth and Ninety-first companies, aggregating two companies.

Infantry.—Headquarters, band, and 12 companies of the Second; 4 companies of the Twenty-fifth; headquarters, band, and 12 companies of the Twenty-sixth; headquarters, band, and 12 companies of the Twenty-ninth, and 4 companies of the Thirtieth Regiments, aggregating 44 companies and 3 bands.

Hospital Corps.—One hundred and ninety-one.

Signal Corps.—Sixteen.

Indian scouts.—Fifty-seven.

Post noncommissioned staff.—Fifty-five.

The garrisoned forts are 24 in number (inclusive of Forts Crockett, San Jacinto, and Travis, which are now being reconstructed, and also Fort Grant, Ariz., which has been ordered abandoned.)

The artillery district of New Orleans comprises Jackson Barracks, with the subposts of Forts Jackson and St. Philip.

Regular annual inspections of the organized militia of this division were made during the months of March, April, and May. The requirements of section 14, militia act, 1903, and the provisions of General Orders, No. 71, War Department, 1903, were strictly observed and carried out in each case. As the detailed reports of each inspection are now on file in the War Department, it is unnecessary to cite herein the various remarks and comments made in the same pertaining to the general efficiency, personnel, armament, and equipment of the militia forces. From personal observation and comments made by the various inspectors I find that renewed and increased interest exists in most all of the organizations, and in consequence thereof an improvement over the past year is now apparent.

The steps taken by the national board for the promotion of rifle practice have had an excellent effect in this division. The number of teams representing the various States and Territories of this division at the national competition at Sea Girt this year shows an increase in the number of teams over those sent last year, thus displaying a greater interest than heretofore.

In connection with the above remarks I desire to suggest the following modification of the present scheme for the promotion of rifle practice throughout the country. In order to gain the best and the desired results from such a project the method employed to promote the same must be such as will reach the greatest number of citizens, and develop in them, first, an interest in this work, and afterwards

a desire to improve in rifle practice and to excel their fellow-guardsmen, and not a scheme which tends to open up competition between only the very best shots in each State. When the interest of the people has once been promoted and enlivened the second part, that of practice, will naturally follow. The present idea of the promotion for rifle practice seems to have been worked out on the lines of the latter method. While the bringing into competition of the very best shots of the militia of the various States will create some public interest, still, owing to the great distance from most States that the national competitions are held, and also the meager reports received concerning the results of the same, there is very little interest felt or displayed outside of the few States in the country adjacent to where the shoot is being carried on.

In view of the foregoing I therefore suggest that preliminary competitions for the national one be held in each territorial division of the Army. These competitions, taking place near the home States of the various teams, would create a local interest which could not be developed by the national competition alone. Then, again, it is very probable that a greater number of States could afford to have teams represent them at these preliminary competitions, as the burden of expense in sending teams to the same would be much less than in sending them to the national competition. Preliminary competitions could be for the purpose of selecting one or two teams in each division to be sent to the national match to compete with those teams selected through the preliminary competitions of other divisions. These shoots could be held on the same ranges and about the same time as the army-division competitions are held, and it is believed that their employment would insure a greater local interest in rifle practice than the national competition alone.

INSPECTIONS.

All the military posts in this division; all the recruiting offices and colleges at which army officers are detailed, and all the national cemeteries that were not inspected last year have been inspected during the present year.

The following extract from the annual report of the inspector-general of the division is embodied herein, as the same meets with my approval. The views expressed therein are of the utmost importance to the general efficiency of the Army and should receive the attention of higher authorities:

There has been considerable improvement in the instruction of troops in the larger garrisons, but in the one and two-company posts, of which there are seven in this division, there is little opportunity for improvement.

The continuance of posts of less than a battalion of four companies is very expensive, as the number of civilian employees and extra-duty men is about as large for a two-company post as it is for a four-company post. In small posts the troops are of not much more service than a guard for public buildings and property; there is not much time or opportunity for practical work in the service of security and information, with little opportunity for battalion drill. In war the battalion is the fighting unit, and the necessity for more practical work in this unit in our Army is very great. It is, therefore, respectfully recommended that, at all posts which may be occupied for any length of time, there be stationed at least four companies, and that all smaller posts be abandoned.

There have been inspections of money accounts for disbursements during the fiscal year as follows:

	Number of accounts.	Disburse- ments.
Accounts inspected.....	99	\$12,062,835.80
Submitted per paragraph 910, Army Regulations.....	89	2,011,397.75
Total.....	138	14,074,233.55

There have been 252 inspections of property for condemnation, with the number of items as follows:

	Articles.	Value.
Continued in service.....	16,594	\$23,406.08
Destroyed.....	94,708	78,858.08
Sold.....	8,864	89,968.08
Turned into depot.....	5,380	18,871.25
Total.....	120,481	160,604.19

DESERTIONS.

The following comments on this subject were submitted by the inspector-general of the division, and are heartily concurred in:

There has been an increase of desertions at some of the posts in the division during the past year. This question has been inquired into. Desertions are principally among recruits, some of whom desert before they receive their uniforms, and evidently use the Government as a means of transportation to a new country. Many of these deserters are young men of roving disposition, and would not be satisfied to remain in one place for any length of time. They are unused to discipline, and when required to take orders and obey the regulations seek their freedom in civil life. The oath of enlistment has little or no binding effect upon them. The pay of a soldier is too small to hold them to their engagement. I am of the opinion that the pay of a private should be increased to \$15 per month. While this increase would not stop all desertions, it would make those who do remain more contented with their occupation. The loss of money to the Government from desertions must be very large, verging near to \$500,000 per year. As long as times are prosperous the best class of laboring men will not enlist. At the present time it is the young men who desire a change and a venture who enlist, and this is the class that it is most difficult to keep in the service on account of the discipline and monotony of garrison life.

It is believed that the return to the system of recruiting depots will be very beneficial in preventing desertion. The recruit can not so readily use the Government to transport him to a new country, and he will learn something about the duties of a soldier before he joins his regiment and will be more fitted for his new surroundings. The lack of amusements and the absence of the canteen also has its effect on desertion.

I would also add to the above remarks that the apparent absence from their companies of a great number of captains has an important bearing upon desertion, the companies being commanded by junior officers of little experience. Statistics show in some cases that the companies commanded by junior officers have suffered a greater number of desertions than other companies stationed at the same posts.

SMALL-ARMS PRACTICE.

As the reports of the target firing for the ensuing year are not required to be submitted until November, no comment on this year's practice in the division can be made.

The division target competitions were held at Fort Reno, Okla., on the following dates: Infantry, July 10 to 15, inclusive; cavalry, July 17 to 20, inclusive; pistol, 21 and 22.

Reports covering said competitions have been forwarded to the War Department.

Lieut. Col. A. C. Sharpe, Thirtieth Infantry, was in charge of these competitions, and through his close observance of the regulations and personal ability there were successfully carried on.

This officer's recommendations covering certain points pertaining to target competitions have been forwarded to the War Department. One of these recommendations especially attracted my attention, and seems of such importance as to bear repetition herein. I have personally advocated the principles cited therein for some years, and have never had any reason to change my views upon them:

Officers and enlisted men entering competitions should be in separate classes. Every effort was made this year to secure the equality of conditions, yet it must be apparent that the officers may have, and often do have, more or less advantage over their competitors in the ranks. To avoid all shadow of favor, there should be two teams, one for officers, the other for enlisted men. This will, perhaps, become more feasible with the adoption of the new rifle. It will be observed in this connection that the cavalry team is composed this year almost exclusively of officers. This is not encouraging to enlisted men.

GARRISON SCHOOLS FOR OFFICERS.

From reports received covering this year's school term, the various garrison schools were carried on strictly in accordance with the regulations and produced effective results. As information has been received that the War Department will, in the near future, issue orders changing the various methods of conducting these schools, no further comment is made upon them at the present time.

POST SCHOOLS FOR ENLISTED MEN AND CHILDREN.

The following consolidated report shows the number of students attending and the progress made at each school, and the condition of the libraries at each post in the division:

Consolidated report of post schools in the southwestern division for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1905.

Post.	Color.	Enlisted men.				Progress in studies.	Children.				Libraries and reading rooms.				
		Average number at post during school term.	Number selected for school attendance.	Average number attending school.	Number of school days.		Number at post of school age.	Average number attending school.	Number of school days.	Number of available enlisted men qualified as school-teachers.	Libraries.		Reading rooms.		
											Volumes on hand.	Volumes circulated since last report.	Magazines received.	Newspapers received.	Average attendance.
Apache	White.....	300	13	5	70	Good.	23	20	88	3	1,095	-----	13	2	-----
Bliss	do.....	253	18	26	72	do.	-----	-----	-----	3	787	-----	4	7	-----
Brown	do.....	190	18	20	75	do.	-----	-----	-----	5	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Clark	Filipino.....	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	3	3	75	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Clark	White.....	423	5	15	75	Good.	-----	-----	-----	2	1,424	-----	13	4	-----
Clark	Colored.....	9	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Douglas	White.....	500	32	28	46	Good.	(a)	-----	-----	2	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Duchesne	do.....	154	20	20	75	do.	10	6	75	2	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Grant	do.....	65	4	45	-----	do.	17	14	94	2	805	117	-----	-----	-----
Grant	Indian.....	10	-----	-----	-----	-----	6	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Huachuca	White.....	223	-----	15	72	Good.	-----	-----	-----	3	932	-----	11	3	-----
Huachuca	Indian.....	2	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Jackson Barracks.	White.....	152	39	21	76	Good.	3	(b)	-----	3	115	-----	8	-----	-----
Logan	do.....	701	70	47	75	do.	-----	(c)	-----	6	998	169	9	17	67
Logan H. Roots.	do.....	137	21	12	33	do.	8	-----	-----	2	421	-----	6	5	-----
McIntosh	do.....	184	4	9	77	do.	-----	-----	-----	1	694	-----	-----	-----	-----
Reno	do.....	117	28	20	74	do.	13	-----	-----	4	300	-----	-----	-----	-----
Reno	Colored.....	251	46	39	74	-----	2	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Ringgold	White.....	123	15	12	74	-----	(d)	-----	-----	1	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Ringgold	Indian.....	11	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Sam Houston.....	White.....	760	38	29	66	Good.	12	7	66	5	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Sam Houston.....	Filipino.....	4	-----	-----	-----	-----	4	66	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Sill	White.....	260	24	30	75	Good.	22	18	90	4	535	-----	20	5	-----
Sill	Indian.....	13	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Whipple	White.....	122	20	9	74	Good.	7	(e)	-----	4	86	-----	9	2	30
Wingate	do.....	122	11	11	80	do.	6	9	104	3	532	7	7	6	8
Wingate	Indian.....	4	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Wingate	Colored.....	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	1	1	104	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

* Children attend school at Salt Lake City.

† Children attend school at New Orleans.

‡ Children attend public and private schools outside of post.

§ Children attend school at Big Bend City, Tex.

• Children attend school at Prescott.

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.

The following remarks on the subject of military instruction at the colleges and universities are an extract of the inspector-general's report. The comments contained therein are fully concurred in, especially in reference to the great number of captains absent on detached service whose presence is greatly needed with their organizations.

As far as my observation goes, the schools that have retired officers as military instructors are, as a rule, as proficient in military tactics as those which have officers detailed from the active list. There are thirty captains from the active list of the line of the Army on duty at these colleges. I am of the opinion that their places could just as well be filled by retired officers, provided the retired officers are not too old or too much disabled for duty, or by lieutenants from the active list, and the service of these captains would be of far greater benefit to the Government if they were on duty with their companies.

MILITARY POSTS.

This subject will be made a part of a special report to be submitted in the near future, and will cover such recommendations in reference to the same as I deem best in consequence of my annual inspection of the division.

MILITARY SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

The usual exacting work of this office has been dispatched efficiently and without delay. I desire to concur in the recommendation made last year, to the effect that all chief clerks at division headquarters should receive an annual income of at least \$1,600. The present chief clerk at these headquarters is paid \$1,400 per year, which should be increased to the above amount, in view of his exceptional ability and the responsibilities devolving upon him in said capacity.

ENGINEER OFFICE.

In addition to the usual office work, making tracings and blueprints, work has been started on the progressive military map of the United States, which continues at this date. There have been detailed for this work six officers from the Department of Texas and four from the Department of the Colorado, covering an area approximately 20,000 square miles.

OPENING OF THE UINTAH INDIAN RESERVATION.

In view of the unsettled state of the White River Utes, and in accordance with directions of the Secretary of War, the following troops were used in connection with the opening of this reservation: Companies F, K, L, and M, Twenty-ninth Infantry, and Troops F and M, Fifth Cavalry. The duty of these troops was to patrol the reservation, keep all trespassers out, and to guard against any uprising or hostilities that might be started by any of the Indians. No signs of any outbreak or disturbance have been reported.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS.

Athletics.—In this division the physical training of the soldier by the means of some form of athletics has become a part of the soldier's duty. The results have been successful in every way up to the present time, and favorable reports concerning the same have been made by each of the department commanders. I am convinced that the physical training of the soldier is not only as important and necessary as his training in target practice, but success in the latter depends upon the proper application of the former; for without the proper physical condition the soldier can not endure the hardships incident to a campaign, and which always precede the actual combat, nor can he stand the excitement and nervous tension bound to be encountered in the actual conflict. So, in order to have a sufficient number of men in the fighting line, when the occasion demands the same, and then to have men who can shoot with precision and

accuracy, we must put all men through a physical training, developing their muscles, endurance, etc., along with the target training. One is as important as the other and is a complement of the other. I therefore recommend that this training of the soldier be recognized as a part of his daily duties and a uniform method of imparting the same to him be established throughout the Army; further, that sufficient money be appropriated annually to carry on division and department athletic competitions. These competitions act as an incentive to the soldier to excel in his daily work in the same manner as do the target competitions.

In addition to the above general recommendations for physical training of the soldier, I desire to recommend that each regiment of cavalry in the service be furnished with a full equipment for a polo team, except ponies, such equipment to belong to the Government and to be used by the various members of the regiment who may at different times comprise the regimental polo team. The articles necessary for such equipment could be furnished under the same conditions as are those furnished to the post gymnasiums. It is further recommended that each member of the regimental polo team be allowed sufficient forage to feed his polo ponies in addition to the regular forage allowance.

For the cavalry branch of this service I do not believe that there is any better form of physical training than that derived from polo. Besides developing the physical condition, it teaches the men to ride and gives them confidence in handling their horses under any conditions.

Promotion.—I desire to renew my recommendation of last year for some scheme of promotion which will remedy the pending stagnation in promotion of officers, bound to be felt in the near future. It is believed that if the provisions of the naval personnel bill were extended to the Army this stagnation in promotion, and the consequent inefficiency which must ultimately result in the lower grades, would be largely relieved. Attention is invited to the bill covering this question, submitted with my annual report of last year.

Very respectfully,

FRANK D. BALDWIN,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

THE MILITARY SECRETARY,
War Department.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.



REPORT DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
San Antonio, Tex., July 15, 1905.

SIR: Pursuant to the requirements of Army Regulations, I have the honor to submit the annual report pertaining to the affairs of the department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1905.

The department has been commanded by the following-named officers:

Brig. Gen. Jesse M. Lee, U. S. Army, from prior to July 1, 1904, to July 20, 1904; August 5 to 10, 1904; August 17 to 23, 1904; September 14 to October 2, 1904; October 14, 1904, to January 20, 1905; February 8 to June 30, 1905.

Lieut. Col. Frederick K. Ward, First Cavalry, from July 21 to August 4, 1904; August 11 to 16, 1904; August 24 to September 13, 1904.

Col. George Le Roy Brown, Twenty-sixth Infantry, from October 3 to 13, 1904; January 21 to February 7, 1905.

TROOPS.

The troops present and serving in the department July 1, 1904, were as follows:

Station.	Designation.	Strength present.			Absent from Department.			Aggregate present and absent.	Remarks.
		Officers.	Men.	Aggregate.	Officers.	Men.	Aggregate.		
Department headquarters (area, 113.03 acres).	General officer, staff, etc..	9	2	11				11	
Fort Bliss, Tex. (area, 1,366.2 acres).	General staff	1	14	15					
	Field and staff, Companies A, B, C, and D, Twenty-ninth Infantry.	8	182	190	7	7	14	219	
Fort Brown, Tex. (area, 358.5 acres).	General prisoners.			3					
	General staff	1	8	9					
	Field and staff, Companies I, K, and L, Twenty-sixth Infantry.	8	184	192	4	3	7	208	
	General prisoners.			2					

Station.	Designation.	Strength present.			Absent from Department.			Aggregate present and absent.	Remarks.
		Officers.	Men.	Aggregate.	Officers.	Men.	Aggregate.		
Fort Clark, Tex. (area, 3,963 acres).	General staff	2	18	20		2	2		
	Field and staff, band, Troops E, F, G, H, I, K, L, and M, First Cavalry.	17	490	447	19	31	50		
	Seminole-negro Indian scouts.		7	7		1	1	527	
Jackson Barracks, La. (area, 88 acres).	General prisoners			8					
	General staff	1	10	11					
	Fourth and Ninety-first Companies, Coast Artillery.	4	97	101	3	10	13	194	
Fort Jackson, La., subpost to Jackson Barracks, La. (area, 557.6 acres). ^a	General prisoners			2					
	General staff		1	1					
Fort St. Philip, La., subpost to Jackson Barracks, La. (area, 1,105.85 acres). ^a	General staff		8	8					1 contract surgeon.
	Detachments Fourth and Ninety-first, Companies Coast Artillery.	1	60	61					
Fort Logan H. Roots, Ark. (area, 1,300 acres).	General staff	1	8	9					1 contract dental surgeon.
	Companies E and F, Thirtieth Infantry.	6	107	113	2	4	6		
	Attached		1	1				129	
Fort McIntosh, Tex. (area, 208 acres).	General prisoners			6					
	General staff		10	10					
	Field and staff and Companies E, F, and H, Twenty-sixth Infantry.	9	167	176	3	3	6	192	1 contract surgeon.
Fort Reno, Okla. (area, 10,240 acres).	General staff	1	16	17					
	Field and staff and Companies E, F, G, and H, Twenty-fifth Infantry.	11	255	266	4	2	6		
	Companies G and H, Thirtieth Infantry.	4	116	120	1	4	5	414	
Fort Ringgold, Tex. (area, 350 acres).	General prisoners			11					
	General staff	1	10	11					
	Companies G and M, Twenty-sixth Infantry.	4	112	116	2	3	5		
Fort Sam Houston, Tex. (area, post proper, 157.58 acres; old target range, 310 acres).	Seminole-negro Indian scouts.		8	8		4	4	144	
	General staff	2	28	30	1	1	2		
	Field and staff, band, and Companies A, B, C, and D, Twenty-sixth Infantry.	13	251	264	8	34	42		Do.
Fort Sill, Okla. (area, 50,727 acres proper; 22,400 acres wood).	Field and staff and Troops A, B, C, and D, First Cavalry.	8	241	249	7	5	12		
	Field and staff, and Second and Fifteenth Batteries, Field Artillery.	4	232	236	4	3	7	842	
	General prisoners			26					
Camp Eagle Pass, Tex. (area, 155.34 acres). ^b	General staff	1	15	16					
	Field and staff and Troops A, B, C, and D, Eighth Cavalry.	11	230	241	4	7	11		Do.
	Attached	1		1					
Total	Indian Scouts		13	13				232	
	Indian prisoners			231					
	General prisoners			8					
Total	Detachment of First Cavalry.		12	12				12	
Total		129	2,852	2,981	69	124	193	3,174	

^a Detachment from Jackson Barracks.^b Detachment from Fort Clark.

NOTE.—Aggregates do not include Indian or general prisoners.

GAINS BY TRANSFER OF ORGANIZATIONS TO DEPARTMENT.

Fort Sill: Headquarters, field and staff, and Fourteenth and Twenty-first batteries, Second Provisional Regiment, Field Artillery, arrived June 30 from the Department of the Colorado. Strength present on arrival, officers, 8; men, 197; aggregate, 205.

LOSSES BY TRANSFER OF ORGANIZATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT.

Fort Sill: Field and staff and Troops A, B, C, and D, Eighth Cavalry, departed June 17 for the Philippines Division. Strength present on departure, officers, 17; men, 257; aggregate, 274.

CHANGES OF STATION OF ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT, JULY 1, 1904, TO JUNE 30, 1905.

First Squadron, First Cavalry, Troops A, B, C, and D, left Fort Sam Houston, Tex., September 24, 1904, by marching en route to Fort Clark, Tex., for station, per paragraph 1, Special Orders, No. 183, Department of Texas, 1904. Arrived Fort Clark, Tex., October 1, 1904.

Third Squadron, First Cavalry, Troops I, K, L, and M, left Fort Clark, Tex., by marching, en route to Fort Sam Houston, Tex., September 24, 1904, for station, per paragraph 1, Special Orders, No. 183, Department of Texas, 1904. Arrived at Fort Sam Houston October 1, 1904.

Company H, Twenty-sixth Infantry, left Fort McIntosh, Tex., November 10, 1904, by marching, per Special Orders, No. 220, Department of Texas, November 6, 1904. Arrived Fort Ringgold, Tex., November 18, 1904, for station.

Company I, Twenty-sixth Infantry, left Fort Brown, Tex., November 14, 1904, by marching, per Special Orders, No. 220, Department of Texas, November 6, 1904. Arrived at Fort Ringgold, Tex., November 19, 1904, for station.

Company G, Twenty-sixth Infantry, left Fort Ringgold, Tex., for Fort McIntosh, Tex., for station, November 22, 1904, by marching, per Special Orders, No. 220, Department of Texas, November 6, 1904. Arrived at Fort McIntosh, Tex., November 28, 1904.

Company M, Twenty-sixth Infantry, left Fort Ringgold, Tex., November 23, 1904, by marching. Arrived at Fort Brown, Tex., November 29, 1904, for station.

Companies G and H, Thirtieth Infantry, left Fort Reno, Okla., June 6, 1905, by marching, en route to Fort Sill, Okla., for station until arrival of Thirteenth Cavalry from Philippines, per Special Orders, No. 114, current series, Department of Texas. Arrived at Fort Sill June 12, 1905.

Second and Fifteenth Batteries, Field Artillery, left Fort Sam Houston, Tex., June 28, 1905, en route to Fort Sill, Okla., by rail, for duty with Second Provisional Regiment, Field Artillery, to remain until November 1, 1905, per General Orders, No. 89, current series, War Department. Arrived at Fort Sill June 29, 1905.

Troops serving in the department June 30, 1905.

Post or station.	Designation.	Present.			Absent.				Present and absent.			
		Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.	Without department.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.	Aggregate.
Department headquarters. Fort Bliss, Tex.	General officer, staff, etc.	9	3	11					9	3	11	11
	General staff.	1	13	14					1	13	14	14
	Field and staff, Companies A, B, C, D, Twenty-ninth Infantry.	8	240	248	2	3	5	2	14	245	259	273
Fort Brown, Tex.	General prisoners			46								
	General staff.	1	10	11					1	10	11	11
	Field and staff, Companies K, L, and M, Twenty-sixth Infantry.	9	175	184		4	4	1	11	180	191	202
Fort Clark, Tex.	General prisoners			5								
	General staff.	2	15	17		2	2		2	17	19	19
	Field and staff, band, Troops A to H, First Cavalry.	21	510	531	2	17	19	16	35	545	578	608
Camp Eagle Pass, Tex. (subpost Fort Clark, Tex.). Jackson Barracks, La.	Seminole-Negro Indian Scouts.		9	9						9	9	9
	General prisoners		1	1								
	General staff.		12	12						12	12	12
Fort Jackson, La. (subpost Jackson Barracks, La.). Fort St. Philip, La. (subpost Jackson Barracks, La.). Fort Logan H. Root, Ark.	Detachment First Cavalry.											
	General staff.	1	8	9		11	11		1	19	20	20
	Coast Artillery, Fourth and Ninety-first Companies, etc.	5	138	143	1	63	63	8	8	208	216	226
Fort Jackson, La. (subpost Jackson Barracks, La.). Fort St. Philip, La. (subpost Jackson Barracks, La.). Fort Logan H. Root, Ark.	General prisoners		1	1								
	General staff.									1	1	1
	Detachment Fourth and Ninety-first Companies, Coast Artillery.	1	60	61						9	9	9
Fort McIntosh, Tex.	General staff.		8	8								
	Companies E and F, Thirtieth Infantry.	1	119	120		2	2		1	1	10	10
	General prisoners			7						123	131	141
Fort McIntosh, Tex.	General staff.		8	8								
	Field and staff and Companies E, F, and G, Twenty-sixth Infantry.	7	187	194		1	1			9	9	9
	General prisoners.			3					11	190	201	210

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Fort Reno, Okla.	General staff.	1	18	17	4	109	113	6	1	1	7	1	21	17	370	391	406		
	Field and staff and Companies E, F, G, and H, Twenty-sixth Infantry, and Companies G and H, Thirtieth Infantry.	11	280	271															
Fort Ringgold, Tex.	General prisoners.		8	14		3	3						1	11	106	112			
	General staff.	5	106	111	1		1						6	106					
	Companies H and I, Twenty-sixth Infantry.																		
Fort San Houston, Tex.	Seminole-Negro Indian Scouts.		10	10										10	10	10	184		
	General prisoners.	2	20	22									2	27	286	307			
	General staff.	17	276	283	1	6	7	3	4	7	7		21	286					
	Field and staff, band, and Companies A to D, Twenty-sixth Infantry.																		
	Field and staff and Troops I to M, First Cavalry.	8	224	232		1	1	7	9	16	15	234	249	234					
	Second and Fifteenth Batteries, Field Artillery.		3	3	5	215	220	4	8	12	9	233	235	233					820
Fort Sill, Okla.	General prisoners.			24															
	General staff.	1	14	15					1	1			1	15	15	16			
	Detachment Thirtieth Cavalry.	1	44	45									1	44	45				
	Indian Scouts.		13	13										13	13	13			74
	Indian prisoners.			259															
	General prisoners.			13															
	Second and Fifteenth Batteries, Field Artillery.	4	212	216	1	8	9	4	6	10	9	286	285	286					
Camp J. P. Story, Fort Sill, Okla. (Second Provisional Regiment, Field Artillery).	Field and staff, Eight and Thirtieth Batteries, Field Artillery. ^a	13	200	213				3	13	16	16	213	229	213					229
	Field and staff, Fourteenth and Twenty-First Batteries, Field Artillery.																		
Total.		132	2,636	2,768	17	443	460	47	70	117	196	3,149	3,345	3,149					3,345

^a Within department en route to Camp J. P. Story; arrived July 1, 1906.

NOTE.—Aggregates do not include figures in italics. Troops at subposts accounted for at permanent stations.

Number and class of officers' quarters and barracks at each post.

Post.	Officers' quarters.			Barracks.				Stables.			Chapels.
	Field officers.	Company officers.	Total.	Band.	Infantry.	Cavalry or artillery.	Total.	Cavalry.	Artillery.	Quartermaster.	
Department headquarters.....	15										
Fort Bliss.....		14	14		3	1	4			1	
Fort Brown.....	1	19	20		4	6	10	2		1	
Fort Clark.....	3	a32	35	1	3	7	11	9		1	
Fort Crockett.....											
Camp Eagle Pass.....		4	4		1		1	1		1	
Fort Jackson.....						1	1				
Jackson Barracks.....	1	6	7		1	4	5			1	
Fort Logan H. Roots.....		8	8		1	1	2			1	
Fort McIntosh.....	1	9	10	1	1	2	4	2		1	
Fort Reno.....	2	b19	21		3	2	5	2		2	
Fort Ringgold.....	2	8	10		2	2	4	2		1	1
Fort St. Philip.....		2	2			1	1			1	
Fort Sam Houston.....	1	c33	34	1	12		13	4	2	2	
Fort San Jacinto.....											
Fort Sill.....	2	18	20	1		4	5	4		1	
Fort Travis.....											

a 8 sets in 1 building.

b 4 sets in 1 building.

c 7 sets in 1 building.

CAPACITY OF QUARTERS, BARRACKS, AND STABLES AT POSTS.

Headquarters Department of Texas.—Quarters for 15 officers, including 1 general officer and 14 field officers.

Fort Bliss, Tex.—Quarters for 14 officers. Barracks for enlisted men, viz, 4 buildings, capacity 100 men each. Stables for 1 troop of cavalry. Corral, including stable for 50 quartermaster's animals.

Fort Brown, Tex.—Quarters for 20 officers, including 1 field officer. Barracks for enlisted men, viz, 5 buildings, capacity 65 men each; 1 building, capacity 100 men. Stables for 2 troops of cavalry. Corral, including stable for 68 quartermaster's animals.

Fort Clark, Tex.—Quarters for 35 officers, including 3 field officers and 8 bachelor officers. Barracks for enlisted men, viz, 7 buildings, capacity 50 men each; 3 buildings, capacity 100 men each. One building for 28 men. Stables for 8 troops of cavalry and mounted band. Corral, including stable for 195 quartermaster's animals.

Camp Eagle Pass, Tex.—Quarters for 4 officers. Barracks for enlisted men, viz, 1 building, capacity 65 men. Stables for 1 troop of cavalry.

Fort Jackson, La.—Quarters for 2 noncommissioned staff officers. Barracks for detachment of 10 men.

Jackson Barracks, La.—Quarters for 7 officers, including 1 field officer. Barracks for 140 men. Quartermaster's stables for 10 animals.

Fort Livingston, La.—(No data on file.)

Fort Logan H. Roots, Ark.—Quarters for 8 officers. Barracks (one building) for 130 men. Quartermaster's stables for 30 animals.

Fort McIntosh, Tex.—Quarters for 10 officers, including 1 field officer. Barracks for enlisted men, viz, 3 buildings, capacity 60 men each; 1 building, capacity 28 men. Stables for 2 troops of cavalry. Corral, including stables for 45 quartermaster's animals.

Fort Reno, Okla.—Quarters for 21 officers, including 2 field and 4 bachelor officers. Barracks for enlisted men; 3 buildings, capacity 100 men each; 2 buildings, capacity 70 men each. Stables for 2 troops of cavalry; 2 quartermaster's stables, capacity 120 animals.

Fort Ringgold, Tex.—Quarters for 10 officers, including 2 field officers. Barracks for enlisted men, viz, 4 buildings, capacity 65 men each. Stables for 2 troops of cavalry. Corral, including stable for 75 quartermaster's animals.

Fort St. Philip, La.—Quarters for 2 company officers. Barracks, 1 building for 60 men. One quartermaster's stable for 3 animals.

Fort Sam Houston, Tex.—Quarters for 34 officers, including 1 field officer and 7 bachelor officers. Barracks for enlisted men, viz, 12 buildings, capacity 65 men each; 1 building, capacity 28 men. Stables for 4 troops of cavalry and 2 batteries of field artillery. Corral, including stable for 96 quartermaster's animals.

Fort Sill, Okla.—Quarters for 20 officers, including 2 field officers. Barracks: 3 buildings, capacity 110 men each; 1 building, 90 men; 1 building, 20 men. Stables for 4 troops of cavalry, 1 quartermaster's stable, capacity 130 animals.

Distances from San Antonio, Tex., to posts in the Department, and means of travel between posts and nearest railroad stations, etc.

From San Antonio, Tex., to—	Distance.	Remarks.
	<i>Miles.</i>	
Fort Bliss	625	By rail, 620 miles to El Paso; thence by wagon 5 miles.
Fort Brown	294	San Antonio and Aransas Pass Rwy. to Sinton, 122 miles; St. Louis, Brownsville and Mexico Rwy., Sinton to Brownsville, 162 miles.
Fort Brown	548	240 miles by rail to Galveston; thence 286 miles by steamer to Point Isabel; thence 22 miles by Rio Grande R. R. to Fort Brown.
Fort Clark	143	133 miles by rail to Spofford Junction, on Southern Pacific R. R.; thence 10 miles by stage (daily) to Fort Clark.
Fort Crocket	248	Distance from Galveston, 2 miles by street-car line; distance from Fort San Jacinto, 4 miles.
Camp Eagle Pass	168	By rail to Eagle Pass.
Fort Jackson	638	On right bank of Mississippi River, 73 miles below New Orleans; by rail to Buras, La., 5 miles from post; by steamer, Lower Coast Packet Co., Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.
Jackson Barracks	577	By rail to New Orleans, 571 miles; electric cars to post, 6 miles.
Fort Livingston	666	By rail to New Orleans, 571 miles; thence 95 miles via river steamer.
Fort Logan H. Roots	579	On St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern R. R.; 4 miles from Little Rock.
Fort McIntosh	155	By rail to Laredo.
Fort Reno	486.5	By rail via Fort Worth and El Reno
Fort Ringgold	331.3	310.3 miles by rail via San Antonio and Aransas Pass R. R. to Sinton and St. Louis, Brownsville and Mexico R. R. to Fordyce; thence 21 miles by stage to Fort Ringgold.
		Also, via Brownsville (Fort Brown); thence via St. Louis, Brownsville and Mexico R. R., 79.8 miles to Fordyce.
Fort St. Philip	639	On left bank of Mississippi River, about 73 miles below New Orleans; by rail to Buras, La., 5 miles from post; by steamer of the Lower Coast Packet Co., Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.
Fort Sam Houston		In city limits; electric cars to post; 2 miles from railroad station.
Fort San Jacinto	248	By rail (battery about 2 miles from Galveston).
Fort Sill	434	By rail via Waureka.
Fort Travis	253	Distance from Galveston 7 miles; reached by means of street car to foot of Twentieth street; thence by ferry to Fort Bolivar; thence 2 miles by spring wagon to batteries, or via Gulf and International R. R. of Texas to Port Bolivar, distance 1½ miles.

Distances from San Antonio, Tex., to posts in the Department, and means of travel between posts and nearest railroad stations, etc.—Cont'd.

Name of post.	Name of railroad station.	Distance from post.	Name of railroad.	Name of nearest town.	Distance from post.	Post-office.	Telegraph station.
Fort Bliss.....	El Paso.....	Miles. 5	El Paso and Northeastern; El Paso and Southwestern; Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe and Southern Pacific Co.; Mexican Central; Texas Pacific. Rio Grande; St. Louis, Brownsville and Mexico.	El Paso.....	5	El Paso.....	El Paso.
Fort Brown.....	Brownsville.....		See Fort San Jacinto Southern Pacific Co.	Brownsville.....		Brownsville.....	Brownsville.
Fort Crockett.....	Galveston.....	2		Galveston.....	2	Galveston.....	Galveston.
Fort Clark.....	Spofford Junction.....	10		Brackettville.....	1	Brackettville.....	Fort Clark.
Camp Eagle Pass.....	Eagle Pass.....			Eagle Pass.....	1	Eagle Pass.....	Eagle Pass.
Fort Jackson.....	Buras.....	5	See Fort San Jacinto Southern Pacific Co.	Buras.....	5	Buras.....	Quarantine.
Jackson Barracks.....	New Orleans.....	3	New Orleans, Fort Jackson and Grand Isle R. R. Pacific; Illinois Central; Louisville and Nashville, etc.	New Orleans.....	3	New Orleans.....	New Orleans.
Fort Logan H. Roote.....	Little Rock.....	4	St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern; Little Rock and Memphis, etc.	Little Rock.....	4	Argenta.....	Little Rock.
Fort McIntosh.....	Laredo.....		International and Great Northern; Mexican National.	Laredo.....		Laredo.....	Laredo.
Fort Reno.....	Fort Reno.....		Choctaw, Oklahoma and Gulf	El Reno.....	5	Fort Reno.....	Fort Reno.
Fort Ringgold.....	Fordyce.....	21	St. Louis, Brownsville and Mexico.	Rio Grande.....	4	Rio Grande.....	Fort Ringgold.
Fort St. Philip.....	Buras.....	5	New Orleans, Fort Jackson, and Grand Isle.	Buras.....	5	Fort St. Philip.....	Buras.
Fort Sam Houston.....	San Antonio.....	3 4 8	Southern Pacific Co. International and Great Northern; San Antonio and Aransas Pass.	San Antonio.....		San Antonio.....	Department headquarters building.
Fort San Jacinto.....	Galveston.....	2	Missouri, Kansas and Texas; San Antonio and Gulf. Galveston, Houston and Henderson; Galveston, Houston and Northern; Gulf and Interstate of Texas; Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe; International and Great Northern; Missouri, Kansas and Texas. Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific.	Galveston.....	2	Galveston.....	Galveston.
Fort Sill.....	Fort Sill.....		Gulf and Interstate of Texas.	Port Bolivar.....	14	Fort Sill.....	Fort Sill.
Fort Travis.....	Port Bolivar.....	14		Port Bolivar.....	14	Port Bolivar.....	Port Bolivar.

INSPECTION OF DEPARTMENT.

I inspected the posts in the following order, accompanied by the chief quartermaster and an aid:

FORT MCINTOSH (LAREDO), TEX.

Inspected March 6, 1905. Garrisoned by Companies E, F, and G, Twenty-sixth Infantry, and commanded by Maj. Charles J. T. Clarke, Twenty-sixth Infantry.

Review and inspection in dress uniform, and second inspection in heavy marching order, followed by a battle exercise.

Eleven officers and 197 men present at post; of these, 8 officers and 143 men present at inspection. Not to exceed 4 men were excused for other duties who should have attended at least one inspection, the same as at the Saturday weekly inspection.

The command presented a very creditable appearance, showed proficiency in drill, battle exercise, and well instructed and equipped for field service. Post orders require specific uniformity for heavy and light marching order for officers and men, and the same as to clothing, equipment, and field kits, etc., in quarters. All officers provided with the prescribed "field kits."

Practice marches and instruction in field service have been had.

Bills of fare for one week showed good variety of food and that company commanders gave careful daily attention to the messes.

The quarters and other public buildings were in good condition. Property and stores of all kinds neatly and systematically arranged and properly accounted for.

A handsome new exchange building is in process of construction.

The hospital was in fine shape, reflecting credit upon the medical officer, Contract Surg. Roger P. Ames.

Storehouses, stables, corrals, and grounds neat, and supplies ample and well cared for. Post garden, a good bakery, and ample supply of ice and water from plant at post.

Wheel transportation and public animals consisting of 2 horses, 28 team mules, and 8 pack mules in good condition, properly used, and well cared for.

Mounted officers own and use their mounts.

A much needed sewer system, which it is understood has been under consideration for twenty-five years or more, has at last taken head, and gratifying to state that it is now being constructed.

Defects.—(a) In some cases no proper stripes for noncommissioned officers.

(b) A number of men of Company G, Twenty-sixth Infantry, not familiar with nomenclature of rifle.

(c) The guardhouse, though in good repair, is too small for comfort.

(d) Target practice unavoidably held on rented grounds about 8 miles from post. The United States should own a suitable range, unless the fine range at Fort Ringgold be maintained and made available for annual target practice of this command in connection with a practice march there and return.

The material improvement of the buildings and grounds and the military progress of the personnel of the command was so marked that credit is due the commanding officer, Major Clarke, the company commanders, and other officers who have loyally and efficiently seconded his well-directed and successful efforts for the betterment of the command.

The wholesome influence resulting from zealous attention to duty by the officers at Fort McIntosh has evoked ready response from the men generally; and it is believed that, with but few exceptions, they may be justly classed among the best soldiers in the department.

Subsequent to the department commander's inspection, a violent storm or hurricane, on night of April 28, 1905, damaged buildings at post to extent of about \$10,000, besides total wreck of one set of officers' quarters (an inferior set). The damage was inspected by Lieutenant-General Chaffee, Chief of Staff, and by Brigadier-General Humphrey, Quartermaster-General, upon their inspection of the post May 1, 1905, and prompt action taken by War Department under date of May 5, 1905, allowing the \$10,000 for necessary reconstruction and repairs resulting from the storm.

FORT RINGGOLD (RIO GRANDE CITY), TEX.

Inspected March 9, 1905. Garrisoned by Companies H and I, Twenty-sixth Infantry, and commanded by Capt. Albert C. Dalton, Twenty-sixth Infantry.

Review and inspection in dress uniform, and second inspection in heavy marching order, followed by a battle exercise.

Five officers and 118 men (including 11 Seminole-negro Indian scouts) present at post. Of these 5 officers and 83 men present at inspection. Six men were excused for other duties who should have attended at least one of the inspections, the same as at the company Saturday inspection.

The command presented a good appearance generally, except in lack of uniformity between the companies as to belts. Proficient in drill (except Company H, only fair in manual), battle exercise, and well instructed and equipped for field service.

All officers provided with the prescribed "field kits."

Extended practice marches and individual instruction in field service have been had.

The detachment of 11 Seminole-negro Indian scouts own their mounts and render efficient service when mounted men are required, which is frequent.

One week's company bills of fare showed good variety of food under existing conditions and frequent inspection of messes by company officers.

The quarters and other occupied buildings have been much improved and are in very good condition.

All property and supplies most neatly and systematically arranged and properly used and accounted for.

The ex-post-trader's building recently purchased in progress of reconstruction for an exchange, which will prove ample for garrison needs.

The hospital was in very good condition and well supplied.

Storehouses, stables, corrals, roads, and grounds scrupulously neat; and supplies ample and well cared for without exception.

Post garden, good bakery, and ample supply of ice and water at post.

Wheel transportation, and public animals consisting of 3 horses and 58 team mules in fairly good condition—excepting some few appear thin and run down from hard work—all properly cared for. Since the completion of railroad to Fordyce, on Rio Grande, about 21 miles below Fort Ringgold, this transportation engaged in hauling all Government supplies and stores to and from post.

This post has the best target range in the department. The range is a part of the reservation and adjacent to the post. The three infantry companies from Fort Brown have had this year's target practice on this range.

Work has continued on the well at post to a depth of 1,950 feet, but without material success, though prospects of obtaining a supply of artesian water are said to be in some degree encouraging. The chief quartermaster's report shows full data on this subject.

Defects.—(a) Lack of uniformity in contents of blanket rolls as between the two companies H and I, Twenty-sixth Infantry.

(b) Clothing not uniform as to stripes and chevrons.

Commendation.—The material improvement in buildings, grounds, care of public property, and the general good condition of the personnel reflect credit upon the commanding officer, Capt. Albert C. Dalton, Twenty-sixth Infantry, and the officers and men under his command. Captain Dalton has been in command of the post since November 18, 1904, and by good judgment and untiring energy he has, with the harmonious and efficient cooperation of every officer and good soldier in the command, achieved gratifying results.

FORT BROWN (BROWNSVILLE), TEX.

Inspected March 10, 1905. Garrisoned by Companies K, L, and M, Twenty-sixth Infantry, and commanded by Maj. George F. Cooke, Twenty-sixth Infantry.

Review and inspection in olive drab uniform, in heavy marching order, and second inspection in dress uniform.

Ten officers and 196 men present at post; of these, 10 officers and 158 men (81 per cent of enlisted strength) present at inspection. This is a very creditable record. Every available man who should have attended, with possibly the exception of only one on other duty, was present at both formations.

The command presented a very creditable appearance. The marching was good; that of Company M (Captain Roche) excellent. Proficient in drill, and well instructed and equipped for field service.

All mounted officers own and use their mounts, and all officers are provided with the prescribed "field kits."

Since inspection extended practice marches and incidental practical instruction in field service have been had by the companies going successively to Fort Ringgold for target practice.

An examination of the bills of fare showed generally as good a variety of food as the conditions would warrant. Messing properly supervised by company commanders. A promising garden at post, which will greatly aid the messes.

The quarters much improved by repairs and generally in good condition.

Property and supplies systematically arranged, properly used and accounted for.

A commodious and elaborately appointed exchange completed.

Hospital in excellent condition and well supplied.

Pertaining to post proper, the storehouses, stables, corrals, roads, and grounds are in first-class order.

A commodious commissary building, one of the best in the department, completed and in use. A good bakery. Ice and water plants ample for post needs.

Some old, unoccupied barracks and other buildings hardly worth repair.

Thus far certain buildings appear to have been fairly well protected against further encroachment of the river, but some danger still exists. Data and recommendations on this subject appear in the chief quartermaster's report.

Wheel transportation in good condition; the public animals especially so, showing vigilant care. The latter consist of 1 draft horse and 31 draft mules. All are properly used.

The target range of last year, on rented ground 9 miles from post, not used this year. A good target range should be owned by the United States in proximity to the post, unless the present range at Fort Ringgold is to be retained and available for that purpose in connection with practice marches of troops from Fort Brown. This is recommended until determination of the question as to the retention or abandonment of Fort Ringgold.

Defects.—(a) Companies not uniformly equipped with shelter tents and cartridge boxes.

(b) Guardhouse large enough, but inconveniently arranged.

The administration of post affairs continues excellent; good discipline has been maintained, and apparent contentment and harmony prevail throughout this efficient garrison.

There were 27 desertions for the year ending June 30, 1905, being 13.9 per cent of the average present strength, the lowest percentage of such loss of the four Rio Grande posts.

The most agreeable relations exist between the command and the Mexican officials—military and civil. These gratifying conditions reflect credit upon the commanding officer, Maj. George F. Cooke, and the officers and men who have rendered him loyal support in his duties.

ARTILLERY DISTRICT OF NEW ORLEANS.

Comprising the post of Jackson Barracks (New Orleans, La.) and subposts of Forts St. Philip and Jackson, La. Commanded by Lieut. Col. Charles W. Hobbs, Artillery Corps, until April 13, 1905, and since by Maj. Charles J. Bailey, Artillery Corps.

The garrison's permanent station is at Jackson Barracks and consists of district headquarters and the Fourth and ninety-first Companies, Coast Artillery.

JACKSON BARRACKS.

Inspected Jackson Barracks and the Ninety-first Company March 28, 1905. (The Fourth Company on detached service at Fort St. Philip.)

Inspection of field and staff in dress uniform, Ninety-first Company in old pattern dress uniform, and afterwards in khaki, in heavy marching order.

Of 5 officers and 109 men present at post 5 officers and 76 men were present at inspection. Eight men excused for other duty, which, unless emergent, should have been suspended for at least one of the inspections. The regulation as to attendance at Saturday inspections should usually apply to a department commander's inspection.

The company presented a most creditable appearance; arms scrupulously neat, proficient in close-order drill, but only fair in extended order. Detachment 17 men showed considerable instruction in the Japanese athletic drill "jiu-jitsu."

Equipped for field service.

One week's bill of fare showed fairly good variety of food. Messing properly supervised by company commander.

Target practice for small arms held at Fort St. Philip. Officers' quarters antiquated, but habitable. Barracks for Ninety-first Company very old and not very clean.

Elaborate and finely finished set of company quarters, guardhouse, and noncommissioned staff officers' quarters (all frame) recently completed and ready for occupancy.

Last year's recommendation repeated, that upon reconstruction of post "the old wall, corner towers, and building over sally port fronting Mississippi River be left standing as a historical memento."

Good bakery. Post water supply ample.

Ice purchased at 10 cents per 100 pounds.

Surface drainage and dry-earth closet system in use in barracks.

But little wheel transportation on hand; old, but serviceable and sufficient. Public animals consist of 1 horse and 6 mules, draft; all serviceable, properly used and cared for.

Defects.—(a) Many old soldiers without service chevrons; (b) some men without collar ornaments; (c) the Fourth Company has new pattern web belts, and Ninety-first Company the old pattern. Neither were worn for any formation for inspection.

Fort St. Philip (subpost).—Inspected March 29, 1905, the Fourth Company, Coast Artillery, temporarily at Fort St. Philip, commanded by Capt. Bertram C. Gilbert, Artillery Corps.

Of 4 officers and 95 men present at post 4 officers and 81 men were present at inspection.

The company presented a good appearance in old-pattern blue blouses and trousers, and afterwards turned out in brown canvas for gun drill. Arms neat, and drill at the batteries showed good instruction. No service chevrons, but required for. Equipped for field service, except tentage; none at Fort St. Philip.

One week's bills of fare show excellent variety of food. Messing properly supervised by company commander.

Officers' and men's quarters and other occupied buildings, frame structures, temporary, habitable, and in fairly good condition.

Hospital in frame building; efficiently administered and well supplied.

Old storehouses serviceable for present use.

All quarters and other buildings very clean.

Property and supplies well arranged and properly accounted for.

No sewerage system. Cesspools cleaned weekly.

Target range up to 300 yards for small arms.

Water supply from cisterns and post pumping plant.

Ice, quartermaster supplies, and subsistence stores from Jackson Barracks at frequent intervals (ten days), by river packet, and for some supplies as often as three times a week. No bakery.

Wheel transportation consists of 2 carts and 1 buckboard; animals of 2 draft mules.

Launch *Lancaster* for local water transportation.

Fort Jackson.—Inspected same day. One ordnance sergeant, capable and efficient, permanent, and detachment 3 men on temporary duty.

Interior fort well kept. Some improvement on exterior in partly keeping down grass, weeds, and bushes. Much of such work constantly needed.

Transportation, 1 serviceable cart and mule.

Difficulty still exists, at times, involving long and tedious correspondence, to arrange for transportation of troops by boat from Jackson Barracks to and from these subposts. This is a matter of continuing importance, and needs to be settled on some enduring, economical, and satisfactory basis.

These two posts involve many unavoidable discomforts as permanent stations for troops. I am familiar with the bad conditions of heat, swamps, flies, and mosquitoes, having been stationed there in 1867-68, and these conditions are practically the same now as then.

Except as future necessity or emergency otherwise requires, the troops from Jackson Barracks should go to these forts in rotation every few months as now, by a detachment from Jackson Barracks of 1 officer and 25 men; this until such time, about October 1 next, as it may be necessary under normal conditions to take the companies in turn from Jackson Barracks to the forts below for general instruction, as prescribed in orders.

Torpedo planter *Col. George Armistead* performed but three days of actual work at these forts (April 13 to 16, 1905), undergoing repairs for twelve days of the time in district.

A cable tank and storehouse much needed at Fort St. Philip in connection with torpedo work, etc., and has been so recommended.

Remarks.—The Ninety-first Company, 2 officers and 78 men, left Jackson Barracks May 2, 1905, for the annual Coast Artillery target practice at Fort Morgan, Ala., returning May 11.

The Fourth Company, 2 officers and 81 men, on similar practice at Fort Pickens, Fla., May 15 to 25, 1905.

The affairs of the artillery district, under the able commanders, Lieut. Col. Charles W. Hobbs, Artillery Corps, until his retirement as brigadier-general, and since then under Maj. Charles J. Bailey, Artillery Corps, appeared to have been efficiently administered in every respect.

First Lieut. Frank T. Hines, Artillery Corps, district artillery engineer officer, etc., is highly commended for his ability and efficiency by both General Hobbs and Major Bailey, in which commendation the department commander fully concurs.

FORT SAM HOUSTON (SAN ANTONIO) TEX.

Inspected April 5, 1905. Garrisoned by headquarters, band, First Battalion (Companies A, B, C, D), Twenty-sixth Infantry; Third

Squadron (Troops I, K, L, and M), First Cavalry, and Second Battalion (Second and Fifteenth Batteries), Field Artillery—all commanded by Col. George Le Roy Brown, Twenty-sixth Infantry.

Review and inspection in dress uniform.

Departmental staff present except one officer, excused.

Inspection of troops in "khaki" at drills made subsequently.

Of 35 officers and 756 men present at post, 33 officers and 623 men were present at review and inspection. Only 2 men absent (Troop L, First Cavalry) on police, who should have attended, under rule, for Saturday inspection.

Military appearance and marching very good. Marked improvement in First Battalion, Twenty-sixth Infantry (Major Kernan), and general excellence of Third Squadron, First Cavalry (Major Gaston), and similar improvement in Second and Fifteenth Batteries (Second Battalion), Field Artillery (Major Niles).

Quarters and other buildings: Some poor, others fair, and greater part in good condition. Extended and needed repairs authorized and begun before end fiscal year. New quarters for bachelors being constructed. Crematory finished. Officers' quarters and men's barracks for four troops cavalry and two light batteries will probably be fully completed in six months.

The systematic interior arrangement, neatness in quarters, excellence in drill, and administration of Company C (Capt. Henry M. Dichmann) and of Company D (Capt. George D. Arrowsmith) place them among the very best organizations in the department.

The entire command, with a few individual exceptions, is proficient in drill and well instructed and equipped for field service on short notice.

Officers have provided themselves with the prescribed "field kits."

Practice marches and practical instruction in field service have been had, extensively so in the infantry battalion.

Marked improvement in consolidated mess in neatness and food, and much credit due to the vigilance and efficiency of the mess steward, Sergt. Richard Orrington, Company C, Twenty-sixth Infantry.

In many respects this system of messing still unsatisfactory. Separate company messes are to be reestablished and company kitchens and dining rooms are in process of construction.

Upon visiting target camp a noncommissioned officer in charge of troop mess stated that the men fared vastly better than in post mess. This practically verified.

One week's bills of fare at consolidated mess showed good variety of food, and that mess officers gave proper supervision to their respective messes, infantry, cavalry, and artillery.

A new hospital building, costing \$75,000, will replace the old one. The hospital well administered and fully supplied. Hospital Corps efficient and well instructed.

The exchange, though well managed, is too small. The post mess is to be converted into an exchange and gymnasium, which will be ample for a full regiment.

Storehouses in departmental quadrangle, stables, corrals, and roads generally neat and in good condition, except that ground of some picket lines of cavalry not in good shape, and general police about cavalry stables and at some places on post only fair.

Productive post garden started this year.

Good bakery and ample supply of ice and water at post.

Generally a good system in arranging stores for proper use and care by responsible and accountable officers.

Wheel transportation and public animals, consisting of 12 horses, 71 team mules, and 14 pack mules in use in Quartermaster's Department, generally in good condition, habitually used for public purposes and well cared for.

The commendable administration of the Quartermaster's Department under Capt. O. B. Rosenbaum, quartermaster, Twenty-sixth Infantry, is shown by the many practical results due to his energy and efficiency.

The cavalry and artillery horses appeared in good condition, well cared for, much improved in training, and generally fit for active service.

Mounted officers of infantry, cavalry, and the field officers of artillery own and use their mounts.

Target practice of infantry and cavalry, in succession, on suitable rented range at Leon Springs on branch of San Antonio and Aransas Pass Railway, 19 miles northwest of San Antonio. Artillery practice on free ground, fairly well adapted to purpose, at Kerrville terminus of same, 71 miles by rail and about 80 miles by wagon road from San Antonio. The troops marched to and from practice grounds.

The compensating advantage of target ranges some distance from a post is, as in this case, the incidental benefit of experience in practice marches, camping, and practical field service. The camp of each command was visited by the department commander during practice season, and the interest, efficiency, and good results were noted. Permanent ranges owned by the United States would be far preferable.

The camps were healthful and maintained at small expense. These camps had not only the appearance but much of the life of real soldiering, in teaching officers and men how to take care of themselves, to be efficient, and adapt themselves to the varying conditions of practical outdoor service. Theoretical instruction in post or garrison makes few thorough-going soldiers. As remarked by a live field officer of this command, "ten days on the march, pitching and breaking camp, with practical exercises in minor tactics, does more toward developing the true soldier than two months of the usual drill and instruction in garrison."

In the opinion of the department commander this entire command should have, in succession as to each arm of the service, from three to four months of just this kind of service each year in connection with the target practice when remote from post.

The tract of 310 acres of ground about 2½ miles north of post now known as "the Government farm" (its general use as a target range being impracticable) is still in statu quo, overrun with weeds, mired, and washed into ruts and holes during the rainy season. It was suggested to the post commander that it be used as far as practicable for drills and maneuvers, especially for the cavalry and artillery. It was so used by the entire command for a battle exercise problem at the annual inspection by an inspector-general of the division. With the exception of a few battery drills and some subcaliber prac-

tice, its use has not been availed of for any military purpose, owing to its distance from the post and the bad condition of the ground at times.

It could be well utilized for a large post garden and for pasture for animals needing rest or recuperation until such time as it may be disposed of to advantage to the United States.

(At this date, July 15, a large tract of 340 acres near the post has been leased for drill purposes until June 30, 1906, at which date it will be recommended that this tract be purchased by the United States if obtainable on reasonable terms.)

Defects.—(a) Noncommissioned staff, Twenty-sixth Infantry: Regimental sergeant-major without service chevrons.

(b) Company B, Twenty-sixth Infantry: No cartridges at inspection; 1 officer with improper sword knot; service chevrons not worn by some men entitled thereto.

(c) First Battalion, Twenty-sixth Infantry: At inspection of drill some lieutenants made minor mistakes, and not well skilled in giving commands.

(d) Troops I and L, First Cavalry, no service chevrons worn by a number of men so entitled.

(e) Second Battery not uniform in buttons and collar ornaments.

(f) Fifteenth Battery: A number of blouses without collar ornaments.

Remarks.—Taken as a whole the command showed general proficiency and improvement.

The President of the United States reviewed the troops in full dress uniform on April 7, 1905. This ceremony was very satisfactory.

The efficient and harmonious administration of the affairs of the post is due to the ability, energy, and vigilance of the commander, Col. George Le Roy Brown, Twenty-sixth Infantry.

FORT BLISS (NEAR EL PASO), TEX.

Inspected April 11 and 12, 1905. Garrisoned by First Battalion (Companies A, B, C, and D), Twenty-ninth Infantry. Commanded by Maj. Ammon A. Augur, Twenty-ninth Infantry.

Review and inspection in dress uniform. Second inspection in heavy marching order, followed by a battle exercise, at which no blank ammunition used. This exercise satisfactory, and Lieutenants Dannemiller and McCleave showed expertness in hasty sketches of same.

Of 13 officers and 269 men present at post, 13 officers and 188 men were present at inspection. About 30 men excused for other duties who should have attended at least one of the inspections, under the rule for Saturday inspections.

With the exception noted, military appearance generally good, especially so as to neatness and proper uniform and equipments in dress uniform and in heavy marching order in Company C (Lieutenant Rifenberick, he being only company officer properly equipped); Company A (Captain Brooks) very neat. All marched fairly well.

Drills fair to good; in battalion very good under Captain Worilow. As to equipment, command prepared for field service, except not fully supplied with shelter tents—required for.

Limited practice march and camping one night in vicinity of post. All mounted officers own and use their mounts.

One week's bills of fare (consolidated mess) showed excellent variety of food and vigilant management of messing, though dining hall not very clean. Steps being taken to abolish consolidated mess and substitute the much-desired separate company mess.

Quarters and other occupied buildings in good condition.

Old hospital used as guardhouse.

Property and supplies neat, well arranged, properly used, and accounted for.

Exchange elaborate, attractive, and well patronized by men. besides regular daily instruction.

Hospital in good condition, very neat, and well administered. Rooms in cellar need cement floors.

Storehouses, stables, and corrals neat.

Supplies ample and all well cared for.

Post garden started. Good bakery. Water supply increased, but more needed to mitigate arid conditions. Plan under consideration by Quartermaster-General. Ice purchased in El Paso, delivered, 30 cents per 100 pounds.

Wheel transportation and public animals, latter consisting of 3 draft horses, 41 team mules, and 8 pack mules, generally in fairly good condition, except some harness not well kept.

Considering constant work on roads, quarters, etc., all property well cared for.

Good target range adjacent to post. Standard equipment of underground cable completed.

Defects.—(a) Several officers, including commanding officer, wore improper sword knots at one inspection; adjutant without any. Gauntlets not authorized for any officer.

(b) Company officers, excepting 1 at inspection, in heavy marching order, without field equipments; 3 officers without gloves. Non-commissioned staff without field equipments.

(c) Lack of uniformity in shelter tents and in men's equipments as between companies.

(d) Excessive number of men on extra and special duty, impairing to some extent needed military instruction.

(e) Service chevrons not worn by some men so entitled in Companies B and D; no handbooks in Companies B and C; some men not well set up in Companies A and C; mattresses and pillows in bad shape in Company A; some men without ammunition or gloves in Company B; both black and tan shoes, and some men with no gloves in Company D.

Greater part of these defects pointed out at inspection for necessary correction as soon as practicable.

Remarks.—Forty-five prisoners in guardhouse; 25 sent from Fort Sam Houston for work on roads and grounds.

The material improvement as to repairs of buildings, constructing roads, fences, general improvements of grounds, etc., has not been equaled elsewhere in the department. This conspicuous progress has done much to relieve some of the many unattractive features and conditions at Fort Bliss, and is mainly due to the untiring energy and systematic plans of the commanding officer, Maj. Ammon A. Augur.

Twenty-ninth Infantry. This has been accomplished by the labor of troops and prisoners, with but little assistance of civilian employees.

While so much has been done in the past fiscal year, much work is still required to make this post fairly agreeable for service of troops. To this end, and especially if it is to become the headquarters of a regiment, liberal allotments are recommended to push the work, and relieve, as far as possible, the men of the garrison from much of the labor, which interferes, to a considerable extent, with their proper military instruction. The importance of Fort Bliss and its many needs were no doubt so manifest to the Chief of Staff and the Quartermaster-General at their recent thorough inspection of this post that it is unnecessary to go into further details in this report.

The road from reservation to city limits of El Paso (about 8,671 yards) has been tendered by the county authorities to the military. It is now being put in good order by the latter by the labor of prisoners, the post authorities to keep the road in repair and to have full and complete control of same, free of taxes, subject to incidental use by the public. This proposition seems fair, is as far as the county authorities can go, and it has been recommended that the proposition be accepted.

In a strictly military sense there has been some improvement in the personnel over last year, but not in a very marked degree, as the command consists largely of new men and as more work has been carried on by troops in various capacities, by details, etc. (and by the labor of prisoners as well, which involves increased guard duty and other supervision), than at any other post in the department in proportion to relative strength.

From July 1, 1904, to June 30, 1905, inclusive, there have been 73 reported desertions from this post, approximately 29 per cent of the average enlisted strength present during that year, and probably the next to the greatest percentage of such loss in the department.

At the time of the department commander's inspection three officers (lieutenants) made complaints. These complaints were reduced to writing, referred to the commanding officer for remark, and were subsequently withdrawn on the written application of the complainants, forwarded through the post commander and approved by him, thus settling the matters.

CAMP EAGLE PASS (EAGLE PASS), TEX. (SUBPOST OF FORT CLARK, TEX.)

This was once a one-company post. Garrison withdrawn April 14, 1904. Detachment of 12 dismounted cavalymen, First Cavalry, and 1 hospital corps man stationed there as guard to buildings and reservation.

Inspected April 14, 1905. Buildings deteriorating somewhat, but some still in fair condition.

As previously specially reported, citizens of Eagle Pass have proffered free to the United States between 600 and 700 acres, high ground, and good target range of over 300 acres, as site for military post. This site has been recommended by the department commander in event of abandonment of Fort Clark. Recommended that Camp Eagle Pass and the reservation be held indefinitely for any contingent use in case of trouble.

FORT CLARK (BRACKETTVILLE), TEX.

Inspected April 15, 1905. Garrisoned by headquarters, band, First and Second Squadrons (Troops A, B, C, D, and E, F, G, H), First Cavalry. Commanded by Col. Martin B. Hughes, First Cavalry.

The command reviewed and inspected mounted, in khaki uniform, saddles packed, followed by a problem of attack and defense. This exercise conducted with spirit and good success, the umpires carefully and fairly noting and reporting the few defects.

Of 26 officers and 422 men (including 9 Seminole-negro Indian scouts) present at post, 25 officers and 338 men present at inspection. The large percentage of attendance due to proper observance of the rule for Saturday inspections.

Military appearance, marching, and other exercises very good. Troop C (Lieutenant Gleaves) especially neat in appearance at inspection. Some men in Troop E without saber knots. Horses and equipments in good condition; former well trained. Command well instructed and fully prepared for field service on call. Extended practice marches had by greater part of command and to a less extent by remainder, with incidental field-service instruction. Officers own and use their mounts, and are provided with prescribed "field kits."

Officers and men proficient in drill and tactical exercises. Several nocommissioned officers have shown good capacity in field sketching and map making.

One week's bills of fare showed very good variety of food in four organizations, fair to good in five others, and proper supervision of messes by all troop commanders.

Quarters and other occupied buildings very clean and neat; a number very poor and dilapidated, some fair, and others good. Five organizations overcrowded in old primitive barracks and outbuildings. Exchange much too small for garrison. Guardhouse insufficient for garrison needs. The guard sleep in tents in front of guardhouse.

Hospital building in fair condition. Administration very good. Hospital Corps efficient and supplies ample. One entire ward devoted to a large number of venereal cases.

Storehouses, ice and water plant, stables, corrals, roads, and grounds neat and generally in very good condition. The quartermaster and commissary storehouses are models of convenience for storage, issues, etc. These staff departments are well administered in every respect, and throughout the post a good system prevails for arranging stores and supplies for proper use and care by responsible and accountable officers.

Troop gardens, good bakery, and ample supply of ice and water at post.

Wheel transportation and public animals, the latter consisting of 1 bell horse, 3 saddle mules, 31 pack mules, 75 draft mules, 4 draft horses, and 10 horses turned in by troops awaiting disposition, all in apparently good condition, properly used and cared for.

The careful and businesslike administration of the quartermaster's department, the systematic arrangement and care of stores and supplies, commend the efficient quartermaster, Capt. Elmer Lindsley, quartermaster, First Cavalry, as meriting special mention.

Target range reported undesirable as to direction, not insuring best results of practice.

Defects.—These were few and of a minor character, and attention called to them at inspection for necessary correction.

Remarks.—As reported time and again, the repairs at this post have been restricted to absolute necessities; but there are still some discomforts, such as overcrowding men in old barracks, using old and dilapidated stockade, outhouses, etc.

The question of the abandonment of the present rocky site and the construction of a new post on suitable ground near by, or elsewhere, as at Eagle Pass, still "hangs fire." The advantages and disadvantages of Fort Clark have been fully reported, and it is hoped that some definite action will be taken at an early day to provide this large command with the essential comforts of modern posts. To effect this as far as practicable the First Squadron at Fort Sam Houston was changed with one of the squadrons (Third) at Clark last fall, and a similar change will be made this next fall to bring the other squadron (the Second) from Clark to Fort Sam Houston, thus permitting all the squadrons to enjoy in rotation for a year at a time the desired advantages and comforts of station at latter post. These changes have been recommended by the regimental commander of the First Cavalry.

It is worthy of record that the excellent condition of the cavalry command at Fort Clark—regimental headquarters and two squadrons—in drill, discipline, efficiency, and harmony, has been a source of gratification to the department commander. The best has been made of everything, with due regard to economy. The initiative has been taken wherever and whenever necessary, and as far as observed every order has been carried out in letter and spirit.

The contentment of the enlisted men is evidenced by the fact that this post has had the smallest percentage of desertions of any in the department.

Credit for this desirable state of affairs is due to the wise and efficient administration of Col. Martin B. Hughes, First Cavalry, and to the loyal response of the officers and men of his command.

SEMINOLE-NEGRO INDIANS.

Nine of these are enlisted scouts serving at Fort Clark and eleven at Fort Ringgold. They render good service. In view of past excellent service and present usefulness as required, recommend their enlistment and reenlistment as scouts without reduction.

As previously reported, these so-called "castaways" are in effect "wards of the military department. They number about 150; they reside on the reservation by authority of the War Department and under absolute control of the commanding officer; they are reported as peaceable, faithful, and honest; live in huts and houses, till some ground, raise a little stock, and labor for their support."

Their history has been previously reported and recommendations in their behalf made by my predecessors, Generals McKibbin and Grant, and myself. Should necessity arise, special report and recommendations as to their permanent location and betterment will be made. In their dependent condition they are certainly deserving of kind and considerate treatment at the hands of the Government. In

the past they have done splendid service as scouts under Lieutenant (now General) Bullis.

FORT SILL (NEAR LAWTON), OKLA.

Inspected May 16, 1905. Garrisoned by First Squadron (Troops A, B, C, D), Eighth Cavalry, and detachment Thirteenth Cavalry. Commanded by Maj. Henry L. Ripley, Eighth Cavalry.

Mounted review and inspection in old pattern blue blouses and trousers; second inspection, mounted (saddles packed), in service uniform, followed by a problem—battle exercise.

Of 13 officers, 1 veterinary surgeon, and 310 men (including 13 Indian scouts) present at post, there were present at inspection as follows: Mounted inspection, 12 officers, 1 veterinary surgeon, 195 men; inspection recruits in quarters, 35 men; hospital corps at and in hospital, 15 men; Indian scouts with their own mounts, 13; total at inspection, 12 officers, 1 veterinary surgeon, 258 men.

Absentees properly accounted for.

Military appearance generally good.

Several troops short on pistols.

A number of saddles not clean.

Medical officer at inspection with saddle not authorized by regulations.

Tan leggings worn by one troop commander not authorized with blue uniform.

Some men other than recruits poorly set up.

Marching and lines in review very good. Troop B (Lieutenant Kirkman) presented a very neat appearance at review, inspections, and in quarters. Horses appeared in good condition, well cared for, and fit for active service.

Officers and men appeared to be efficient for garrison and field duties and proficient in drill and tactical exercises, illustrated by practical example. Properly equipped for field service. Practice marches and practical instruction in field service had by the command. Officers have prescribed "field kits."

Officers' quarters, barracks, and other occupied buildings generally in good, habitable condition. Some minor repairs needed.

Hospital in good condition, well administered, and fully supplied. Hospital corps efficient, but without knives. Separate hospital for Apache Indian prisoners.

Two days' bills fare showed very good variety of food and efficient supervision of messes by troop commanders.

Storehouses, stables, corrals, roads, and grounds neat and in good condition, especially the quartermaster and commissary storehouses. Both of these need cement floors in cellars. All supplies and stores neatly arranged under excellent systems to insure proper care and exact accountability.

On October 24, 1904, a fire, due to some careless soldier, burned up $4\frac{1}{2}$ stables and large quantities of troop property stored there. Total loss, approximated, $4\frac{1}{2}$ stables, \$13,500; stores and property, \$9,410.24; total, \$22,910.24. One-half stable rebuilt at approximated cost of \$1,520. Two small fires since, but readily extinguished with no material loss.

Post garden, fair exchange, good bakery, and sufficient water

supply at post for present needs; additional supply contemplated. Ice purchased in Lawton at 29 cents per 100 pounds.

Good building for exchange and gymnasium much needed.

Wheel transportation and public animals in quartermaster's department for post use, consisting of 22 horses (13 riding and 9 draft), 1 bell mare, 48 draft mules, 42 pack mules, and 15 riding mules, are generally in good condition, well cared for, and properly used. In addition to these there are 7 draft horses and 63 draft mules in use on farms with Apache Indian prisoners. They are not considered as serviceable for general military purposes. Pack train of 40 pack mules, 9 riding mules, and 1 bell mare shipped from post March 9, 1905, en route to Philippines.

To the marked ability and efficiency of First Lieut. George A. Purington, Eighth Cavalry, post quartermaster and commissary, is mainly due the excellent condition of the supply departments as observed at the inspection.

Good target range near post needing some grading. Equipped with underground cable.

Attention was called to the few defects noted above for necessary correction.

The affairs of the post have been most carefully and efficiently administered by the post commander, Maj. H. L. Ripley, Eighth Cavalry.

On June 17, 1905, the squadron of Eighth Cavalry left post for service in the Philippines, being relieved by Companies G and H, Thirtieth Infantry, from Fort Reno until arrival of the Third Squadron of the Thirteenth Cavalry.

APACHE INDIAN PRISONERS.

The Chiricahua Apache Indian prisoners number in the aggregate 261 men, women, and children, a decrease of 5 since last annual report.

First Lieut. George A. Purington, Eighth Cavalry, who succeeded to the able administration of Capt. Farrand Sayre, Eighth Cavalry, August 20, 1904, reports that of this number there are at present drawing rations 230, as follows: Fifty-six men, 74 women, 16 boys and 11 girls over 12 years, and 37 boys and 36 girls under 12 years. The 73 under 12 draw only half rations, and material reductions made in the rations of all. They provide their own clothing, none being issued by the quartermaster's department. There have been 11 births and 17 deaths during the past year.

Lieutenant Purington's full and interesting report of May 22, 1905, with the indorsement thereon of the post commander, Maj. H. L. Ripley, Eighth Cavalry, of May 23, was forwarded to the Military Secretary of the War Department, with my letter of review dated June 15, 1905.

For detailed information and recommendations, reference is invited to those papers.

Owing to the remarkable progress of these Indians under military control, it is here recommended that their present status be continued for at least four or five years, with the possible exception that a few of the more progressive (named in a list accompanying Lieutenant

Purington's report) might be allotted land in severalty within one or two years.

It is here noted that the addition of 26,987 acres to the large Fort Sill Reservation, which now contains 50,727 acres (besides a wood reserve of 22,400 acres about 11 miles southeast), was made "for exclusive use for military purposes and for the permanent location of the Apache prisoners of war," vide General Orders, No. 14, Adjutant-General's Office, War Department, series 1897.

Ultimately allotments can be made as the Indians become fitted to take them, reserving a large pasturage tract for use in common—say the wood reserve, if suitable—for their cattle.

As stated by Major Ripley, the post commander, in his indorsement of last year—

The prisoners on the reservation interfere in no way with military movements, and the field for maneuver of troops has been greatly increased by the additions which have been given these Indians. The soldiers and Indians are mutually benefited by the present arrangement.

The small areas of land which have been inclosed for cultivation cut no figure when compared with the whole area open for maneuver.

Lieutenant Purington is much interested in his work among these Indians, having been specially selected and retained for that purpose. It is believed that under his tactful and energetic management the progress of these Indians will continue with such vigor that in four or five years, under existing favorable conditions, they will be self-supporting, with the exception of the few surviving "old timers."

As stated in my letter of June 15, 1905 (18658), "Geronimo made two requests: "First, to visit Washington with an interpreter and a few of the old fellows of his people. This I disapprove. Second, to have a party under charge of some responsible person and an interpreter go to the headwaters of the Gila River, in Arizona, with a view to removal of all these Indians to that vicinity. While there is no special necessity for making this trip, yet I believe it would be good policy to permit it, and thus determine for all time the permanent location of these Indians on the Fort Sill Reservation. As previously stated, such a change would undo the progress made and give them a setback from which they would never recover. I emphatically disapprove of their removal to that or any other country.

FORT RENO (NEAR EL RENO), OKLA.

Inspected May 17 and 18, 1905. Garrisoned by Second Battalion (Companies E, F, G, and H), Twenty-fifth Infantry, and Companies G and H, Thirtieth Infantry. Commanded by Lieut. Col. Hobart K. Bailey, Twenty-fifth Infantry. (Companies G and H, Thirtieth Infantry, temporarily detached June 6, 1905, to garrison Fort Sill until arrival of incoming squadron (Third) Thirteenth Cavalry.)

Review and inspection in old-pattern blue uniform (blouse and trousers), new-pattern cap.

Second inspection in khaki uniform in heavy marching order, followed by a battle exercise, which soon terminated by death of the battalion adjutant, First Lieut. Granville L. Chapman, Twenty-fifth Infantry, from accidental gunshot wound.

Of 18 officers and 388 men present at post, 18 officers and 314 men present at review and inspection.

This large and commendable attendance due to a strict compliance with the rule as to Saturday inspections.

Military appearance very good, and in some organizations excellent. Arms and equipments scrupulously clean. Marching very good; Company F, Twenty-fifth Infantry (Lieutenant Bundel), excellent. A good volunteer band (16 pieces) from Battalion Twenty-fifth Infantry is one of the useful military attractions of the garrison.

Drills very good.

Command properly equipped and officers and men well instructed and prepared for field service. Officers provided with prescribed "field kits;" and all mounted officers own and use their mounts.

Reports show practice marches by Companies H, Twenty-fifth Infantry, and G and H, Thirtieth Infantry.

Two days' bills of fare showed good variety of food; excellent in Companies E and F, Twenty-fifth Infantry; and proper supervision and visitation by all company commanders.

Quarters and other occupied buildings in from fair to good condition.

Barracks Company G, Thirtieth Infantry, in old hospital building, repaired, enlarged, and much improved since last year's inspection.

Guardhouse clean, somewhat crowded. Plumbing to be repaired.

Companies have shooting galleries.

Athletics given prominence in instruction.

Quarters Company E, Twenty-fifth Infantry (Lieutenant Schudt), very neat.

Hospital in fine condition, fully supplied, and administration excellent, reflecting credit on the post surgeon, Capt. J. H. Ford, Medical Department.

Storehouses, exchange, stables, corrals, grounds, etc., generally in good condition. Stores and supplies well arranged throughout post for proper care and accounting.

Post garden; good bakery; water supplied from plant at post. Tanks old; need new ones or repair. Drinking water from Caddo Springs by water wagon, about 5 miles haul. Ice purchased in El Reno at 25 cents per 100 pounds.

Wheel transportation in from fair to good condition. Public animals, consisting of 6 riding horses (1 sick) and 63 draft mules, were in good condition, well cared for, properly and habitually used for public purposes.

Good post target range, with underground cable service, adjacent to post; also used for division competitions.

Defects.—(a) In Companies G, Twenty-fifth Infantry, and H, Thirtieth Infantry, some men deficient in nomenclature of rifle.

(b) At inspection in khaki uniform prescribed collar ornaments not worn.

(c) Inadequate practice marches in Companies E, F, and G, Twenty-fifth Infantry.

(d) The most glaring defect was the failure of company commanders of Companies E and H, Twenty-fifth Infantry, and G, Thirtieth Infantry, to fully and properly comply with the explicit orders of

the post commander of May 17, 1905, directing that for the battle exercise to be held the morning of May 18 "the men will be supplied with five rounds of blank ammunition each. Company commanders will carefully inspect their companies prior to leaving their company parades and see that no ball cartridges are in the possession of their men." Had this order been properly observed by all the company commanders, it is probable that the lamentable accident of the fatal wounding and almost immediate death of Lieutenant Chapman, a promising young officer, would not have occurred. Necessary disciplinary action was taken in this matter by letters of admonition to the company commanders at fault and full report forwarded to the War Department June 22, 1905.

During the year the affairs of the post have been carefully and efficiently administered by the post commander, Lieut. Col. Hobart K. Bailey, Twenty-fifth Infantry.

With exceptions indicated, the personnel of this command stands high as to efficiency and instruction in practical duties.

PORT LOGAN H. ROOTS (ARGENTA, NEAR LITTLE ROCK), ARK.

Inspected May 19 and 20, 1905. Garrisoned by Companies E and F (and Second Battalion staff), Thirtieth Infantry. Commanded by Lieut. Col. Thomas F. Davis, Thirtieth Infantry (now military secretary), until March 23, 1905, and succeeded by Lieut. Col. Alfred C. Sharpe, Thirtieth Infantry.

Review and first inspection in dress uniform (new-pattern blouse and cap and old-pattern trousers).

Second inspection in khaki uniform in heavy marching order, followed by a maneuver problem.

Of 8 officers and 135 men present at post, 8 officers and 101 men were present at inspection.

No men improperly excused; but in Company E (Captain Bent) 5 men absent without leave from review and first inspection and 2 more (making 7) so absent from second inspection.

With exceptions noted under "defects," military appearance very good. Marching good, that of Company E (Captain Bent) excellent. Arms and equipments very neat.

Drills excellent; best manual in the department.

Command properly equipped and officers and men instructed and prepared for field service. Officers have "field kits" and mounted officers own and use their mounts.

No practice marches had at date of inspection, but a short practice march had before June 30, 1905, pursuant to special instructions of department commander.

Two days' bills fare show good variety of food. Daily supervision messes by company commanders.

Quarters and other occupied buildings in very good condition. Barracks Company E (Captain Bent) scrupulously neat. A little crowded upstairs, but plenty room downstairs, as needed.

Guardhouse, ample room and very neat. A much-needed administration building in process of construction: \$26,000 allowed for new post exchange. Some such building long desired.

Hospital neat, in good condition, well supplied and properly administered. Hospital corps efficient.

Storehouses, shops, stables, corrals, roads, grounds, etc., in very good condition.

Quartermaster and commissary storehouses in fine shape.

Stores and supplies well arranged and cared for for prompt issue and accounting. Excellent system prevails throughout post.

Good bakery. Water now supplied from Argenta, due to break in pipes crossing Arkansas River to Little Rock reservoir, and distributed by post pumping plant. New local system of initial supply contemplated. Drinking water hauled by wagon from spring on reservation. Ice purchased at 20 cents per 100 pounds.

Wheel transportation in good condition. Public animals, consisting of 3 draft horses and 23 draft mules, all serviceable, well cared for, and properly used.

Good target range as to direction on reservation adjacent to post, but needs much work in leveling. Ample funds now allowed for this purpose.

Defects.—(a) Shortage in both companies of uniform shoes and chevrons.

(b) Three men Company E in blue at inspection in khaki, due to lack proper sizes for them in quartermaster's department. Some men this company without drab gloves.

(c) Hospital corps men's kits not marked.

Remarks.—(1) The maneuver problem of nearly three hours' duration, illustrating the attack and defense of a convoy, was most thoroughly devised by the commanding officer, and every necessary instruction clearly detailed in orders which are models of completeness. The problem was admirably executed by officers and men.

Good road and position sketches were expeditiously made and handed in immediately after the conclusion of the exercise by the topographical officers, First Lieuts. Hilden Olin and George E. Goodrich, Thirtieth Infantry.

(2) From July 1, 1904, to June 30, 1905, inclusive, there have been reported 37 desertions from this post, approximately 29.8 per cent of the average enlisted strength present during that year, and apparently the greatest percentage of such loss in the department.

(3) The affairs of the post appear to have been well administered by Lieutenant-Colonel Sharpe during the brief period he has been in command, and also by his predecessor, Lieutenant-Colonel Davis.

This concluded the inspection of all the troops, posts, and subposts in the department.

The inspections were as thorough as practicable, in conjunction with the chief quartermaster of the department, in order that nothing of importance might be overlooked. This course insured a clear understanding of needs and methods to meet them with due regard to economy.

The reports are made in detail for each post to show as clearly as possible conditions and defects.

As department commander I feel the constant need of an inspector on the departmental staff, but as that request has not been favorably considered it is found that many duties of an inspector now fall upon the department commander in addition to those of administration, which require unceasing attention.

There is no intent of criticism of the efficient work of inspectors-general under the present system, but a department commander may

at times not be clear as to just what action he should take on irregularities reported by an inspector with whom he can not personally confer. Nor can a department commander fully advise such inspector as to conditions which obtain at various posts. A departmental inspector would best know the orders and detailed instructions of the department commander with reference to the discipline and administration throughout his command; and his presence would always insure investigations on the instant, which are sometimes necessary. This is a vantage ground which no other inspector can have. The recommendation is therefore respectfully renewed for a departmental inspector.

The following inspections have been made in the department during the year:

The post of Forts Logan H. Roots, Reno, Sill, Sam Houston, Brown, Ringgold, McIntosh, Camp Eagle Pass, Forts Clark and Bliss, by Lieutenant-General Chaffee, Chief of Staff, accompanied by Brigadier-General Humphrey, Quartermaster-General; the posts of Fort Sam Houston by Major-General Sumner, the division commander; the posts of Forts Sam Houston, Clark, and Bliss by Brigadier-General Baldwin, the division commander; all posts and garrisons by an inspector-general of the division; and all posts and garrisons by the department commander.

It is recommended that the colonel of a regiment make at least one inspection of the companies away from his headquarters. There is a colonel in this department who, though here nearly a year, as regimental commander has not yet seen eight companies of his regiment. Unless the entire regiment is soon to be concentrated at Fort Sam Houston, it is important that an early opportunity be afforded him of making the military acquaintance of the companies now on the lower Rio Grande. (Vide par. 236, A. R.)

INSTRUCTION—THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL.

This has been carried on pursuant to the general outline contained in General Orders, No. 18, series 1904, from division headquarters, the details being prescribed by the department commander in General Orders, No. 43, series 1904, from department headquarters.

These orders required not only the many drills, exercises, etc., set forth in Army Regulations and War Department orders, but they allowed latitude for initiative of post commanders, who submitted in advance schedules for approval.

It is believed that the orders and instructions have been substantially complied with as far as conditions have permitted, though there appears to have been some remissness at two or more posts as to practice marches. It seems rather difficult at times to evict even a part of a garrison from post luxuries and humdrum duties of guard, fatigue, and parade exercises to "rough it" for a while on active field service; but fortunately this tendency of "how not to do it" is exceptional.

SCHOOLS.

It was a reasonable inference from Army Regulations and orders that the department commander had but little, if anything, to do with

school instruction, division commanders being expressly charged with the superintendence of garrison schools "under direction of the War Department." Paragraph 6, General Orders, No. 115, series 1904, War Department, prescribed that "The division commander will have the general supervision of the post and garrison schools in the division. They will be inspected under his orders," etc.; and further, paragraph 8, same order, prescribes that "Post commanders, subject to the supervision of division commanders, shall have immediate charge of the instruction," etc. In letter of January 26, 1905, from The Military Secretary, War Department, I was directed to report "relative to the practical working of General Orders, No. 115, of June 27, 1904, War Department, in so far as it applies to the garrison schools," etc. As the matter was of much importance, it was found necessary, under the circumstances as above indicated, to call upon post commanders for special reports on the subject of schools for officers and men. Extracts from their reports were submitted in my report of April 19, 1905, to which attention is invited. Some of the views and recommendations of the post commanders were concurred in, while others were submitted without comment.

My own recommendations then made are summarized as follows:

First. Discontinuance of post schools for instruction of enlisted men in common English branches. With but few exceptions these schools are a failure. No man should be enlisted who can not read and write understandingly. Instruction should be of a military character and not of schoolboy methods.

These schools do not justify the time and expense so applied. Compulsory attendance is a source of discontent, and in some cases full duty soldiers may feel that their military duties of fatigue, etc., are increased so others can attend school.

Second. In the case of officers, not to exceed one hour a day should be devoted to recitations.

Third. Officers to be marked on practical work, efficiency of their commands, etc., as well as on book recitations, and result to be based on average percentage for entire course, rather than on merely one examination. Grading to be rated higher for an officer of marked efficiency in practical duties than one who is behind him in these, but who, by what is sometimes known as "cramming" process, leads in book recitation.

Our most successful officers with troops in time of peril are not necessarily those who "burn the midnight oil" to attain scholastic eminence. (The truth of this matter was never more aptly stated than in an article written by an able naval officer: "The handling of men is the most difficult, delicate, and the highest duty an officer is called on to perform.")

Fourth. Officers performing staff duties at posts should be excused from school attendance, in the post commander's discretion, when busily occupied with their important staff duties. In some instances the practical interests of the service have been delayed and otherwise embarrassed by such attendance.

As previously reported, due recognition should be given "to the importance of theoretical work, study, recitation, etc., but these should not take precedence over nor impair the practical work so essential to the thorough development of the soldier's military duties

in camp, garrison, and field." Surfeit of theory, with stinted practice and other causes as well, by no means far to seek, have not generally brought our officers and men quite up to the high standard of 1898. Taken, however, as a whole, there has been improvement over last year, but marked excellence is somewhat exceptional.

DISCIPLINE, DESERTIONS, ETC.

The discipline is generally good and in some organizations excellent.

The plethora of guardhouse prisoners involves a maximum of guard duty, but not a similar degree of good results in many cases. This often interferes with proper military instruction of the soldier, especially as to men new in the service, on some of whom the effect is bad.

I renew my recommendation of last year that "A general prison for the confinement of general prisoners under sentence of a year or more would be a relief to garrisons, lessen guard duty, and insure more men for drills and other instruction." At any rate, there should be one in each department, with a specially enlisted guard, as at Fort Leavenworth years ago.

DESERTIONS.

Desertions have increased by a fraction of 1 per cent over last year, when compared with the average enlisted strength for both years.

The approximate average enlisted strength present in the department in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1905, was 3,026; the desertions numbered 444, being nearly 15 per cent of present average strength.

The record by posts is as follows, from July 1, 1904, to June 30, 1905, inclusive:

Posts.	Approximate average enlisted strength present.	Number of desertions.	Per cent deserted.
Fort Logan H. Roots.....	124	37	29.8
Fort Bliss.....	251	73	29.0
Fort Sill.....	257	62	20.2
Fort McIntosh.....	196	31	16.0
Fort Ringgold.....	183	20	15.0
Jackson Barracks.....	224	32	14.2
Fort Brown.....	193	27	13.9
Fort Sam Houston.....	778	100	13.0
Fort Reno.....	386	35	9.0
Fort Clark.....	492	37	7.5
Total.....	3,026	444	14.7

As stated in my last annual report, "Conditions which obtained and remedies which were applied prior to the late war with Spain reduced desertions to a minimum." This gratifying minimum is shown at only two posts in the department—Fort Clark (Colonel Hughes), 8 troops and band, First Cavalry; and Fort Reno (Lieutenant-Colonel Bailey), 4 companies Twenty-fifth Infantry (colored), and two companies Thirtieth Infantry.

The causes of desertion are so many and so well known it is not deemed necessary to repeat them here. There are, however, some pertinent remarks and recommendations on the subject which may be presented—some of them previously stated:

(1) Officers are not so closely nor so continuously identified with their organizations as formerly. Many captains are absent, some of whom have probably never seen their companies; and at times very few officers on duty with their proper organizations when most needed, and constant changes going on as to company commanders. (A recent visitation to a target-practice camp found only four officers on duty with the four troops, and only one of these a captain.)

(2) Disintegration of companies by transfers, discharges, etc., and the influx of raw recruits have much impaired that old-time home attachment of men to their companies, and the regimental pride is hardly what it once was.

(3) The recommendation is renewed that "careful inquiry be made and reliable information obtained as to the age, character, and habits of an applicant for enlistment, covering one or two years immediately preceding."

A proper enforcement of this rule would prevent a recurrence of a recent discreditable case, where on a writ of habeas corpus it appeared that a boy only 17 years old was fraudulently put down as 22 years old by a recruiting sergeant, after having been informed by the father as to true age and warned not to enlist him. The boy was sworn in by the recruiting officer and deserted in less than two months. The United States was put to considerable expense in this case, and it seems that the recruiting sergeant escaped deserved punishment.

(4) The pay of company and regimental noncommissioned officers should be increased commensurate with their important duties. This would be an incentive to good men "to stick."

(5) Our Army is mainly recruited from the industrial or producing classes—in other words, from the "common people." They make, as a rule, much better and more faithful soldiers than a number of those who claim to belong to "good families," and some of whom enter the service under assumed names.

(6) It seems that in time of peace enlistment in the Army is too much regarded as a mere contract, to be carried out or abandoned at will, the same as with any hired employment in civil life. A great many reputable citizens do not view desertion as a crime from the Army standpoint. As one remarked, "that fellow just quit his job."

(7) Another thing—the enlisted soldier in time of peace in the United States does not receive much consideration from the "body politic." It is only in time of war when he "strikes for country and for home" that he is held high in public estimation.

In time of peace the soldier is oftentimes a curious but not a popular object in the public eye. This unfavorable impression is sometimes disseminated by unfortunate and disparaging comments in some of our papers.

GENERAL REMARKS AND SPECIAL RECOMMENDATIONS.

The duties of the troops during the year have pertained to garrisons, practice marches, field exercises, camps for target practice, and taking part in civil functions, as follows: Second Light Battery

at Dallas fair in October, 1904; all troops available from Sam Houston, at flower carnival at San Antonio, in April, 1905; Troop B, First Cavalry, from Fort Clark, as guard to "Rough Riders," camp at reception to the President, in April, 1905; First Battalion, Twenty-sixth Infantry, civic parade in San Antonio, July 4, 1905; escorts to dignitaries upon notice.

Similar participation in civil functions at other posts when so requested, including proper observance and taking part in Memorial Day exercises.

LOWER RIO GRANDE POSTS, FORTS MCINTOSH, RINGGOLD, AND BROWN.

Two battalions (Second and Third) Twenty-sixth Infantry have garrisoned these hot posts for about one year and eleven months, following their return from over two years' service in the Philippines. It is recommended that this entire regiment be concentrated at Fort Sam Houston. If impracticable to do this within a reasonable time steps will be taken for an interchange between the First and Second battalions.

The garrisons at Forts McIntosh and Brown should be a full battalion of four companies each, commanded by a field officer. Fort Ringgold, if retained, should be an outpost or a subpost of Fort Brown and terminus of practice marches and for target practice from Forts Brown and McIntosh, either or both.

The only mounted force along the Rio Grande consists of a detachment of 11 Seminole-negro Indian scouts at Fort Ringgold.

THE INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY.

No serious complications have arisen as to "bancos" or as to obstructions due to construction of jetties or other improvements on either side. The protection of the Fort Brown reservation, the administration and other buildings, and the national cemetery needs attention. The encroachment of the river has been stayed by well-secured brush fillings, but other measures in addition may be necessary to insure permanent protection.

As previously reported, the situation on the border remains in statu quo and somewhat unsettled on the "banco" question, as far as that is understood.

MOUNTED OFFICERS.

Pursuant to the clear instructions from the Chief of Staff, published in a departmental circular, mounted officers of the line, now on duty in this department (July 5), own and use their mounts, and also nearly all of the staff officers. So long as the regulation stands, all officers belonging to the class designated or known as mounted officers, whose duties may require them to be mounted, should own and use their mounts and learn to ride. A sudden call to the field or to take part in a ceremony which results in an officer scurrying around to get some animal that perhaps may do, or borrow a soldier's horse from some mounted organization, is not a practice to be favored or permitted, because decidedly unmilitary. The regulations are a law unto the Army and should be obeyed by all without discrimination for or against.

A more liberal use by mounted pay officers of their authorized private horses, foraged at Government expense, would tend to some reduction in number of spring wagons, and moderate and restrict the use of public transportation as prescribed in paragraphs 1109 and 1110, Army Regulations, but to a considerable extent custom or practice seems to have ordained otherwise.

SPECIAL AND EXTRA DUTY MEN.

While many of such details relate to military duties, probably an equal number have no such direct relation, and the result is material impairment of their military instruction and efficiency as soldiers.

The term "extra-duty men" is a misnomer—they should be called "extra-pay men," because they practically do but little, if any, strictly military duty. Some post commanders seem to be between two fires—one to make a fine showing as to material improvement in buildings, roads, grounds, etc., and the other to have a well-instructed and efficient body of soldiers. Both of these desiderata are often difficult of accomplishment, and the desire to make conspicuous the adornment and completeness of the former is sometimes regarded as paramount to any special excellence of the latter.

It has been found that where the greatest amount of such work has been carried on by the men they fell below the general average as soldiers. At one post it was found that 77 men, or about 30 per cent, were on special and extra duty of various kinds, as laborers, teamsters, mechanics, etc. The zeal of the post commander to improve conditions—and they needed it—and make every dollar go as far as possible, by the labor of soldiers, instead of employing civilians, was laudable enough in that way; but it seemed to be to a considerable extent at the expense of military instruction and efficiency.

At another post the average effective enlisted strength present in eight organizations for four consecutive days was 406. (The sick and prisoners deducted from total present strength to determine effective strength.) The average strength present at drills and other military instructions was 221 men, or only 54 per cent of the effective strength.

The greatest percentage of effective strength present at drill on one day of the four was 58; the least percentage present was 51. The absentees were accounted for by men on guard, special and extra duty men, and old guard fatigue.

An examination of the records from posts for one month shows that the attendance at the prescribed drills and military instruction ranged from 37.5 per cent, the lowest, to 68.8 per cent, the highest of the "effective strength" on above basis.

These are conditions, not theories, which confront post and company commanders, from which it is at times difficult to escape.

The post must be kept up in appearance, and the fault, if fault there be, can not always be laid at the door of post commanders. It is due to a system more or less pervasive.

Army regulations prescribe that labor of troops should not interfere with their military duties except in case of emergency. The apt reply years ago of a distinguished post commander to the question, "Does the labor of troops interfere with their military duties?"

"No, the military duties interfere with their labor!" is applicable to some, if not many, cases to-day.

There is much general work in garrison, such as policing, care of buildings, grounds, handling supplies, etc., which necessarily devolves upon the soldier. In the field or campaign there is no limit as to what troops must do, but under any condition the fighting force must not be drawn upon so heavily as to seriously impair its efficiency when the crisis comes.

With direct reference to military duties, every organization should have some competent artificers—a good wagoner, baker, and two or more cooks; but these should be thorough soldiers in their companies and not for indiscriminate detail in the supply department. Expertness in the use of the ax, pick, and shovel is well enough in emergency, but familiarity of the soldier with the use and capabilities of his rifle, carbine, pistol, bayonet, and saber is at least of as much, if not more, importance. It must be recognized that our Army has had no very serious test since the civil war.

The remedy then is, for special and separate service corps for the supply departments. Competent and desirable men should be enlisted to replace the soldiers now habitually detailed on extra or special duty in these departments, such as mechanics, engineers, firemen, teamsters, and in some instances as laborers in storehouses, corrals, etc., where the work is constant.

The rates of pay should be such as to attract good men, and they should, as far as found necessary, be subject to military discipline and trial by courts-martial, the same as other enlisted men, having due regard to their duties. When necessary to detail a soldier as teamster in the Quartermaster's Department, drop him from the company by transfer to the service corps of that department, or, if that can not be done, discharge him as a soldier and hire him as a civilian teamster.

We have the hospital corps for the Medical Department, a signal corps, and why not a service corps for the supply departments? While the Medical Department is authorized to recruit its hospital corps from well-trained soldiers of the line, and has so popularized this corps that even some good soldiers would prefer such transfer to wearing noncommissioned officers' chevrons in their companies, still even this method by transfer to a service corps would be preferable to the detail system, which impairs the efficiency of an organization.

UNIFORM, TENTAGE, ETC.

Owing to the changes in the last year or two, some complications have resulted, and many perplexing questions have been asked as to what is the prescribed uniform and how computations should be made.

Recent orders and decisions have cleared the atmosphere somewhat, and the new system seems to be working satisfactorily. A number of complaints were made of the smallness of collars of the new pattern dress coats. In a number of instances this was the case at Forts Bliss and McIntosh, and same as to old pattern dress coats for coast artillery, at Jackson Barracks and Fifteenth Battery Field Artillery, at Fort Sam Houston.

At hot posts on Rio Grande (Forts McIntosh, Ringgold, and

Brown) some complaint that heavy olive drab not suitable—lighter quality desired.

We have a variety of clothing in this department; some posts have one kind and some another. All, however, are using the khaki, which is believed to be the most unsightly uniform ever worn by the American soldier in the United States. It, or something similar, except as to color, is no doubt necessary on foreign service, but when the old stock on this side shall have been used up and replaced by the olive drab (light and heavy, according to climate) the military appearance of the men will be very much enhanced.

This year's inspection shows marked improvement over last year as to promptness and sufficiency of supply, under the admirable system devised and carried out by the Quartermaster-General and his subordinates.

It is believed that there is not one case in ten where all the minute details prescribed in Army Regulations as to issues of clothing on "schedules" are fully complied with. Practical methods have to be resorted to and red-tape circumlocution often avoided.

It is believed that the prescribed allowance of tentage should be in the hands of company commanders. There seem to be many cogent reasons for this, and not one good one against it. Every company should have its entire field equipment right at hand for quick response to any call for outside service. The company commander should look after this for his company and not divide this important responsibility with the post quartermaster.

MEMORANDUM RECEIPTS.

This system does not tend to insure as much care in the use of property in the hands of troops as the old system of the company commander's accountability. This is specially true in war times, as shown by the vast increase in boards of survey to make a clean-up (a kind of clearing house) for accountable and responsible officers when organizations were scattered and officers changing constantly. The old system may have made more work for clerks in Washington, but it had the merit of being the best one for active service in the field or even for a camp.

The new system, if it has any merit, is one for peace—not war.

We still have the old system for ordnance, and it works well. If memorandum receipts are good for quartermaster supplies, why not for the sake of uniformity extend them to ordnance?

INSPECTION OF PROPERTY.

If more latitude were allowed a departmental commander in the appointment of special inspectors, it is believed that it would insure prompt administration and save expense.

PAPER WORK, CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS, AND RETURN.

The paper work is of stupendous proportions. Whether this can be reduced is an intricate question which only experts could solve. As a department commander I can only say that at times it is difficult to give the desired careful consideration to all the papers which pass before me. One thing is evident: That in time of war much of

the present peace method must be thrown to the winds, well illustrated by a reputed remark of a bureau officer in 1898, that "the perfect system which we evolved in peace has been knocked to pieces by the war." We are in the midst of so many sudden changes, transformations, and revisions that it is hoped that some simple system may be adopted, applicable to either peace or war.

It has been found that by a strict adherence to the Regulations as to all correspondence and reports of the departmental staff administration going to or passing through the office of the Military Secretary, the transaction of public business would be much impeded, even with a necessary increase of about 50 per cent of clerical force in his office. We have adopted some business methods which avoid unnecessary circumlocution and which keep the department and post commanders fairly well informed of what is going on.

It is refreshing to state that all matters coming from the Quartermaster-General's office concerning which the department commander should be informed or over which he may have to exercise some control, are transmitted through the department commander. This facilitates the transaction of business, and the same rule is required to be observed, as far as practicable, by the heads of staff departments at these headquarters with reference to post commanders under similar conditions. In this way the department commander and the post commanders can keep in touch with what is being done, thus enabling them to act understandingly when any action becomes necessary.

As far as known, there appears to be, approximately, the following number of distinct and separate blank forms used in the entire administration of certain staff departments: Eighty-three forms in the Military Secretary's Department; 134 forms in the Quartermaster's Department; 76 forms (46 regular, 30 miscellaneous) in the Subsistence Department; 54 forms in the Medical Department; 42 forms in the Pay Department; 506 forms in the Ordnance Department (there seem to be 77 additional which are pamphlets, etc., but classed as "forms"); 88 forms in the Signal Corps regularly listed (there are others, the approximate number of which not known; these forms do not include books of record).

While probably many of these forms—notably of Ordnance—are not in regular use in this department, it is evident that the vast amount of clerical labor on the many that are, besides correspondence, card and book records, manuscript reports, etc., can hardly be estimated.

The civil-service rules generally furnish efficient clerks, but the changes which occur and the proper desire of clerks to avail themselves of the authorized leaves of absence in the hot seasons sometimes leave us embarrassed or increases work for those who are on duty at the busiest time.

"The business rule" as to "reclamations," in advance or independent of the action of a survey officer, prescribed in paragraph 959, Subsistence Manual, 1902, does not seem to fully agree with requirements of paragraphs 672-673, Army Regulations of 1904. When supplies are inspected, accepted, and paid for by a commissary officer they become United States property.

When the seller is culpable or otherwise at fault, should not the fact be made of record in due course by a survey officer and an in-

spector, and full reimbursement made in cash to the Government, instead of sometimes allowing the seller to replace the articles? If the seller furnishes unfit stores through design or neglect, it seems that having been paid in full he only risks reclamation of one kind or the other in the event his fault happens to be discovered in time by the issuing commissary.

Recently this "business rule" failed to work as to one of two purchases of large quantity of flour shipped to Fort Sill, both of which were there found unsuitable. That purchased from one party was presumably returned to the seller at his expense. The other seller declined the reclamation process and the flour has been held at Fort Sill by the post commissary over two months awaiting final action of the survey officer and an inspector, this delay due to the request of the purchasing commissary. The reclamation when made in kind may possibly suffice in minor cases, but in this important one it failed; besides involving much prolonged and some unsatisfactory correspondence. The query arises: Does the reclamation process reimburse the Government in all cases for the cost of transportation paid by the Quartermaster's Department?

In general, the business operations of the Subsistence Department are seldom brought to my attention for any special action, except in case of a "tangle" or complaint, of which the one cited is the only instance of any importance.

The affairs of this department have been conducted with a directness which has brought quick results and general satisfaction, with what seems to be less paper work, in proportion to business handled, than in some other departments. All instructions from the chief commissary of the department to post commissaries pass through post commanders.

The following miscellaneous recommendations are deemed worthy of consideration:

(1) With the present demands for paper work, companies should be supplied with typewriters, instead of company commanders and first sergeants being compelled to buy or hire them for public use.

(2) Copies of circulars issued by heads of bureaus of War Department should be furnished direct to department and post headquarters for file and reference as needed.

(3) In the revision of Army Regulations and publication of a new edition the numbers of paragraphs should remain unchanged—thus, "Paragraph 42, A. R., 1904, omitted." To most officers the numbers become fixed in memory. Permanent numbers are a better key than what is frequently complained of as the imperfect index to Army Regulations.

(4) Officers traveling and on duty with troops should be allowed actual expenses for meals en route, by rail or sea, the same as other officers not on duty with the troops. Just why an officer busy with his duties should be so discriminated against and the officer with nothing to do so generously favored has never been understood. If such be the law, its injustice should bring speedy repeal.

(5) Just why the Government should provide modern quarters costing from \$10,000 to \$12,000 for lieutenants and captains and allow them only from \$24 to \$36 per month for quarters when detailed for duty in a city surpasses understanding. It is recommended that commutation of quarters be increased to enable officers to rent suit-

able quarters when on detached duty, instead of compelling them to live in unsuitable ones or meet the deficiency out of their regular pay.

(6) By paragraph 48, Army Regulations, 1904, regimental commanders are vested with full power to transfer company officers when no change of station is involved whenever, in their opinion, "the interests of the service" so require. Without reflecting in the slightest upon regimental commanders, it is recommended that all such transfers be subject to approval of higher authority. At stations other than regimental headquarters the department commander has full knowledge of needs and conditions.

Under paragraph 112, Army Regulations, 1904, "Transfers of enlisted men will be made for cogent reasons only." The reasons should be equally strong as to company officers, and their sufficiency determined by the department commander or higher authority, especially in cases of officers not serving at regimental headquarters.

A return to the spirit of the requirement contained in closing sentence of paragraph 53, Army Regulations of 1901, is recommended.

STAFF ADMINISTRATION.

The officers serving as heads of the various staff departments were as follows:

Military secretary: Maj. Walter L. Finley, military secretary, U. S. Army, military secretary of the department the entire year, excepting the period from March 20 to April 30, 1905. First Lieut. George Van Horn Moseley, First Cavalry, aid-de-camp, acting military secretary of the department from March 20 to April 30, 1905.

Judge-advocate: Capt. Charles D. Roberts, acting judge-advocate, U. S. Army, entire year.

Chief quartermaster: Maj. Robert R. Stevens, quartermaster, U. S. Army, entire year.

Chief commissary: Capt. Samuel B. Bootes, commissary, U. S. Army, entire year.

Chief surgeon: Lieut. Col. Louis M. Maus, deputy surgeon-general, U. S. Army, who relieved Maj. Henry P. Birmingham, surgeon, U. S. Army, April 18, 1905.

Chief paymaster: Maj. John L. Bullis, paymaster, U. S. Army, from prior to beginning of year to April 13, 1905; Capt. Guy L. Carleton, paymaster, U. S. Army, from April 14 to April 16, 1905; Maj. Hamilton S. Wallace, paymaster, U. S. Army, April 17 to end of year. Major Bullis was promoted April 13, 1905, and retired as a brigadier-general, U. S. Army, April 14, 1905.

Chief ordnance officer: Col. John Pitman, Ordnance Department, U. S. Army, entire year.

Chief signal officer: First Lieut. George Van Horn Moseley, First Cavalry, aid-de-camp, who relieved Capt. Eugene O. Fechét, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, July 1, 1904.

OTHER OFFICERS OF THE STAFF CORPS SERVING AT DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS.

Capt. Guy Carleton, paymaster, U. S. Army, assistant to chief paymaster.

Capt. Lawrence J. Fleming, quartermaster, U. S. Army, assistant to chief quartermaster and in charge of construction at Fort Sam Houston, Tex., entire year.

Aids.—First Lieut. Garrison McCaskey, Twenty-fifth Infantry, aid-de-camp and inspector of small-arms practice entire year.

First Lieut. George Van Horn Moseley, First Cavalry, aid-de-camp, assistant military secretary, in charge of department of athletics, and chief signal officer of the department entire year.

The officers above named have performed most satisfactorily and thoroughly all the duties required of them, and their staff departments have been efficiently administered.

MILITARY SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT.

The military secretary of the department, Maj. Walter L. Finley, military secretary, U. S. Army, submits a report on desertion, from which the following table and remarks thereon are taken:

Desertions, 1904-5.

	General staff.	Cavalry.	Artillery.	Infantry.	Total.	Fort Bliss.	Fort Brown.	Fort Clark.	Jackson Barracks.	Fort Logan H. Roots.	Fort McIntosh.	Fort Reno.	Fort Ringgold.
1904.													
July	0	13	2	46	61	14	5	5	0	11	0	12	1
August	0	12	5	24	51	4	1	0	4	5	5	2	2
September	0	4	3	27	39	12	0	0	7	0	3	2	0
October	0	4	2	25	31	15	0	2	1	2	0	3	3
November	0	15	4	23	42	3	3	1	1	4	3	2	0
December	0	12	3	13	28	1	1	5	3	1	0	0	2
1905.													
January	0	5	8	15	28	5	2		8	0	5	1	1
February	0	2	4	12	18	2	0		0	1	3	3	1
March	0	12	2	17	31	3	0	4	0	2	3	3	5
April	0	15	5	19	39	0	1	2	3	3	6	3	4
May	0	19	3	31	53	11	9	8	3	7	0	2	0
June	0	2	3	19	24	3	3	0	2	1	4	2	1
Total	0	124	49	271	444	73	27	37	32	37	31	35	20
Total 1904-5	1	79	30	162	272	24	15	33	11	37	30	19	11

	Fort Sam Houston.	Fort Sill.	Total.	Causes.		Total.	Number of enlisted men present (within department).					
				Drunkennes.	Other causes.		General staff.	Cavalry.	Artillery.	Infantry.	Scouts.	Total.
1904.												
July	7	6	61	16	45	61	156	1,009	397	1,420	33	3,015
August	10	18	51	6	45	51	155	1,061	446	1,464	33	3,159
September	10	4	39	12	27	39	151	1,042	450	1,441	32	3,116
October	3	2	31	4	27	31	150	1,013	443	1,503	32	3,141
November	16	3	42	13	29	42	153	906	434	1,500	33	3,026
December	13	2	28	5	23	28	162	833	429	1,403	37	2,940
1905.												
January	2	0	28	5	23	28	156	874	426	1,468	33	2,957
February	6	0	18	9	18	18	154	803	437	1,479	33	2,906
March	9	3	31	7	24	31	161	921	442	1,503	33	3,030
April	12	5	39	10	29	39	153	937	435	1,512	31	3,068
May	8	5	53	15	37	52	148	934	433	1,502	32	3,049
June	4	4	24	7	17	24	145	790	418	1,488	32	2,879
Total	100	52	444	109	335	444	153	927	433	1,481	32	3,026
Total 1904-5	63	24	272	72	200	272	(a)	689	261	932	(a)	1,882

^a Not included in annual report 1904-5.

From examination of this table it will be seen that the increase of desertions in the department over the preceding year is in a ratio slightly larger than the corresponding increase in the strength of the troops in the department, while the number of desertions due to drunkenness, compared with the total number, shows 24.5 per cent for 1905 to 26.4 per cent for 1904—a slight decrease over last year, but not sufficiently marked to be of particular significance.

The practical measures which should be taken to check desertions are believed to be:

First. Higher pay for noncommissioned officers.

Second. Greater rewards for apprehension of deserters.

Third. Better instruction of young officers in their company duties under their captains, who for this purpose should be kept where captains belong, with their companies.

Fourth. Careful culling out of undesirables at the recruiting depots.

Fifth. Reestablishment of the post canteen with the privilege of selling beer.

JUDGE ADVOCATE'S DEPARTMENT.

The report of the judge-advocate of the department, Capt. Charles D. Roberts, acting judge-advocate, is so complete and interesting and the recommendations therein contained are of such importance and of such general interest that it is here freely quoted from, as follows:

There were four trials of commissioned officers, resulting in three convictions and one acquittal. In the case of one conviction the proceedings were finally acted upon by the President.

The number of trials of enlisted men by general court-martial was 367; by garrison court-martial, 12, and by summary court, 2,613. Two general prisoners were tried by general court-martial and 1 by summary court, making the total trials of all classes 2,999.

The following table shows the general court-martial trials by organizations:

Corps or regiment.	Trials.	Convictions.	Acquittals.	Disapprovals.
Medical Department	1		1	
Post noncommissioned staff	3	3		
Hospital Corps	17	15	1	1
Signal Corps	1	1		
First Cavalry	52	40	10	2
Second Cavalry	1	1		
Third Cavalry	1	1		
Fifth Cavalry	2	2		
Eighth Cavalry	22	18	3	1
Ninth Cavalry	2	2		
Thirteenth Cavalry	2	2		
Fourteenth Cavalry	2	2		
Fifteenth Cavalry	4	4		
Cavalry, unassisted recruits	1	1		
Artillery bands	1	1		
Artillery, Coast	32	30	2	
Artillery, Field	41	37	4	
First Infantry	1	1		
Third Infantry	1	1		
Sixth Infantry	1	1		
Tenth Infantry	2	2		
Twelfth Infantry	1	1		
Thirteenth Infantry	1	1		
Fifteenth Infantry	2	2		
Eighteenth Infantry	1	1		
Twenty-second Infantry	1	1		
Twenty-fifth Infantry	18	14	3	1
Twenty-sixth Infantry	93	87	4	2
Twenty-eighth Infantry	2	2		
Twenty-ninth Infantry	21	15	3	3
Thirtieth Infantry	37	35	2	
Infantry, general recruiting service	2	2		
Infantry, unassisted recruits	2	2		
General prisoners	2	2		
Total	373	330	38	10

Four officers are included in the above list, viz, Medical Department, 1; Eighth Cavalry, 1; Coast Artillery, 1; Twenty-sixth Infantry, 1.

Of the 129 trials for desertion, 104 resulted in conviction as charged, 21 in conviction of absence without leave only, and in 4 the sentences were disapproved.

The following table shows the organizations to which the men tried for desertion belong:

Hospital Corps.....	5	Sixth Infantry.....	1
Signal Corps.....	1	Tenth Infantry.....	2
First Cavalry.....	9	Twelfth Infantry.....	1
Second Cavalry.....	1	Thirteenth Infantry.....	1
Third Cavalry.....	1	Fifteenth Infantry.....	2
Fifth Cavalry.....	2	Eighteenth Infantry.....	1
Eighth Cavalry.....	6	Twenty-second Infantry.....	1
Ninth Cavalry.....	2	Twenty-fifth Infantry.....	4
Thirteenth Cavalry.....	1	Twenty-sixth Infantry.....	33
Fourteenth Cavalry.....	2	Twenty-eighth Infantry.....	2
Fifteenth Cavalry.....	4	Twenty-ninth Infantry.....	6
Cavalry, unassigned recruits.....	1	Thirtieth Infantry.....	7
Artillery bands.....	1	Infantry, general recruiting service.....	2
Artillery, Coast.....	19	Infantry, unassigned recruits.....	2
Artillery, Field.....	7		
First Infantry.....	1		
Third Infantry.....	1	Total.....	129

An analysis of the above table shows that 64, or 49.6 per cent of the whole number, belonged to organizations not serving in this department.

A record has been kept of cases tried by general court-martial in which it appears in the record that the offenses were due to intoxicating liquor. Of the 373 cases tried this year, 89 are thus charged to drink. In many, if not most, cases no reason for the offenses is assigned, and it is thought that full knowledge of the facts would show a much larger proportion of offenses due to drink.

While it is not the province of this office to furnish statistics of desertions (except as to trials therefor), it is interesting to note that of the reports examined by me of 356 desertions from posts in this department during the first ten months of the fiscal year, 126 were of recruits in their first six months of service, 94 of men serving in their second six months, 49 in their second or third year, and 85 in their fourth or subsequent year, while of 2 the length of service was reported as "unknown." Of the "causes for desertion" that department orders require to be given, if possible, with the report of each desertion, 150 out of the 356 say "unknown;" of the other 206 cases, drink is given as the cause of 110, "general dissatisfaction" of 25, "worthlessness" of 23, association with dissolute women of 13, debts of 12, the remaining 23 being assigned to other causes.

Tabulating these desertions by months shows that summer desertions are almost twice as numerous as in winter.

The increase of desertion is the most serious disciplinary question now confronting the service.

The substitution of company for general messes soon to be made at Forts Sam Houston and Bliss and the opening of gymnasiums and amusement rooms at various isolated posts should cause some improvements at those posts.

Many causes for desertion can easily be given, but it is not so easy to suggest practical remedies. It is thought that we have law and regulation enough on the subject and should strictly enforce what we have without trying any experiments.

Judging from the evidence before courts-martial, one prolific cause of desertion is ignorance of the nature and consequences of the crime. The second article of war appears from these records to be more honored in the breach than in the observance. It is thought that if each recruit was fully instructed as required by that article some good at least would result. It is also thought that quality, not quantity, of recruits should be the basis of awarding praise or censure to recruiting officers; in other words, record should be kept of each officer's recruits for, say, a year after enlistment, and the results compared. Secondly, the penalties for desertion should follow the crime more surely and speedily than they do now. Determined effort should be made to apprehend deserters and bring them to trial. This does not require new legislation or regulation—simply enforcement of that existing. But many officers say that the apprehension of deserters causes more trouble than the resulting good is worth; that the men so apprehended are worthless to the Government, cause extra work

to their comrades who stay in the ranks, and are generally a nuisance; and, furthermore, that the guardhouses are overflowing anyhow, and that if even half the men who desert were caught the condition of overcrowding would become intolerable.

And right here comes up the old question of a place to confine general prisoners. It seems entirely unnecessary to go into the reasons why central prisons would be far preferable to the present system of guardhouse confinement.

The garrison prisoners at a post are generally sufficient to do the necessary policing; and even if they are not, the fatigue parties to supplement them are hardly more numerous than the details that have to be made to guard general prisoners.

Aside from this is the question of punishment and example. Many worthless soldiers prefer a year's tour in the guardhouse to serving out their time in the ranks; hence they desert, knowing that the chances are four or five to one of not being apprehended, and the probability, even if apprehended and convicted, of a comparatively easy time in a post guardhouse.

There were in this department on June 30, 1904, 63 general prisoners. On June 30, 1905, there were 101. Twenty escaped during the year, of which number but 6 were recaptured. The guardhouse accommodation for general prisoners in the department is, according to General Orders, No. 55, Adjutant-General's Office, 1895 (still in force), but 15. But all the prisoners must be provided for some way.

In this connection it is believed that the term "military convict" is preferable to "general prisoner," and its use might deter some soldiers from entering that class.

A saving of time would in most cases be made if judge-advocates of courts-martial were authorized to send interrogatories for witnesses to be heard by deposition under the ninety-first article of war direct to the post commander, if the witness resides within a post or in its immediate neighborhood, or to the department commander if he does not. This would require only a slight change in the regulations and in the blank form for depositions.

Since veterinarians are part of the Army, though not commissioned or enlisted, it is an anomalous condition that they are not triable by court-martial, and it is recommended that appropriate legislation to remedy this condition be sought—in other words, the veterinarians to be made commissioned officers.

It is recommended that, if practicable, an effort be made to have section 1 of the act to prevent the failure of military justice, approved March 2, 1901, amended so as to make refusal of a witness to appear before an officer empowered and directed to take a deposition, to qualify or to testify, a misdemeanor.

Since general orders amending army regulations are printed on but one side of the paper, with the evident intention of inserting such orders in the Regulations, it is recommended that double the usual number of such orders be sent out so that order files can be kept complete, as well as the copies of Regulations kept up to date.

It is thought inequitable that a garrison prisoner, no matter how long his confinement, receives no abatement for good conduct.

Furthermore, the graded good-conduct allowance in effect for the past year or more does not, in my opinion, accomplish satisfactory results. I can see no sufficient reason why long-term prisoners should receive more allowance for a month's good conduct than short-term prisoners. It would appear to me more equitable if all prisoners were divided into classes according to their conduct while in confinement, and that those in the first class be given, say, an abatement of one-third, those in the second class one-sixth, and those in the third class none. This division into classes is already made for general prisoners, and its extension as above indicated would not be difficult.

I fully concur in the views and recommendations contained in the foregoing remarks of the judge-advocate of the department, and the conditions represented are of vital and increasing importance to the Army.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

The chief quartermaster, Maj. Robert R. Stevens, quartermaster, U. S. Army, submits complete report of the important transactions of

his department during the year, and attention is invited to the follow-résumé and extracts therefrom.

The defects existing at the various posts, as shown by last year's report, "have been largely remedied by work actually done, in progress or provided for, or now under consideration."

FORT CLARK, TEX.

Its status as a post to be either rebuilt or abandoned is now fully recognized. During the past year repairs have been made upon the post to the greatest limit consistent with ultimate economy.

Among the defects remedied at Fort Clark during the past year was the strengthening of three two-story barracks by placing about six tie-rods on each floor through the walls of the buildings, bringing them firmly together, and relieving the unserviceable condition which had before been reported.

* * * * *

The principal items of new work during the year at Fort Clark consisted of the construction of two riding corrals, costing \$500, and the installation of a new pump, at a cost of \$631.21.

Water supply should, if the post there is to be maintained, receive some special attention. The soil in the bottom and along the sides of the natural reservoir furnishing the supply source is so deep and the growth of vegetation so rank as to become somewhat of a menace to sanitary conditions.

The report shows that it will require considerable work and expense to properly protect the springs of the abundant water supply from the vegetation.

The location of Fort Clark, 10 miles off the railroad, necessarily renders its maintenance a heavy item of public expenditure.

As hay is the only article supplied in the vicinity, all other staple commodities are rendered abnormal in cost by the heavy item of transportation necessarily connected therewith.

The reservation at Fort Clark has an area of about 3,963 acres, which includes a tract which has been used as a target range. The surface, with the exception of the hill where the present post is located, is generally a low flat, covered by a heavy depth of black soil.

In case of the retention of Fort Clark as a location of a military post it would be desirable that a provision be made for a well-constructed road or negotiations instituted for the construction of a switch by the railroad company.

The question of the construction of a road by the Government would necessarily introduce that of securing such a right of way as would warrant, legally, the expenditure of Government funds thereon. The want of such right of way has very much embarrassed conditions at other points.

EAGLE PASS, TEX.

This station, having been abandoned as a military post, is now maintained as a subpost of Fort Clark. A detachment of 13 men is located there for the care of buildings and grounds.

During the year the question of adequate military protection along the most exposed portion of the southern border was again presented to the War Department by the business interests along the Rio Grande, and especially at Eagle Pass.

The following is a substantial résumé of the report on this subject:

The citizens of Eagle Pass had previously tendered a donation of 640 acres of land for a post. Pursuant to authority from the Chief of Staff, the chief quartermaster was directed to thoroughly "investigate details and place the matter in definite form." This work began August 13, 1904, and was pursued with much care and energy and successfully completed in every detail. The offer of 640 acres was increased by 340 acres for target range. "Three sites were offered as

alternatives. The site finally selected afforded the greatest comparative advantage for strategic and sanitary considerations, economy of construction," etc.

The site proposed for the post location, while sufficiently near the town of Eagle Pass for general convenience, is at the same time far enough removed therefrom for complete quarantine isolation when necessary. Its elevation of about 100 feet above the river, while not so great as to prevent access by light grade, is sufficiently high to afford free access to prevailing winds and relieve largely the heat radiation and confined conditions of the low grounds along the border generally.

A railroad spur could be easily carried to the summit of the mesa forming the proposed post site.

The site for the target range provides for firing directly north, and has other advantages which render it unquestionably the best location for the purpose in this department, and, it is believed, in the division.

All of these concessions were secured to the Government and the entire matter made complete by means of warranty deeds in escrow, to cover transfer of reservation lands and pumping-station sites, and by rights of way and easements for water, sewer, and telephone lines, and for highways to connect with the city limits and to afford other communications with river and target range.

The tender having been thus fully secured by the citizens, they "have asked that the Government signify its acceptance in one year from October 25, 1904. Should this lapse, however, and the probability be that formal acceptance would afterwards be made, the time would undoubtedly be extended."

If needed for extended military exercises, it is believed that additional land could be readily acquired at reasonable rates. "This entire subject was presented in reports of this office, respectively, of August 23 and September 23, 1904."

FORT BLISS, TEX.

The chief quartermaster reports that the unsatisfactory conditions previously reported have been largely remedied. The allotments for barracks and quarters "expended principally for material and extra-duty service." The principal improvements made under all heads were: Supports to certain partitions in lieutenants' quarters—omitted from original construction; renewal or repair of barrack porches; construction of root cellar; completion new hospital (\$22,924) [but little if any better than old one, now used as guardhouse]; screening of buildings against mosquitoes, flies, etc.; hauling and scattering soil and attempting to cultivate lawns near buildings and on parade; inclosing orchard and garden tract and septic tank; repair and extension post fences, and contract to inclose entire reservation; direct pumping pressure for irrigation, and increase in water supply by deepening one of the two wells. (Post needs storage tank 50,000 gallons capacity, additional pump and well and extension of pumping station. This increase especially necessary and urgent in view of contemplated increase of garrison to become regimental headquarters.)

Much work has been done on reconstruction and repair of road between post and city limits (El Paso), about 2 miles, to make it a well-finished macadamized highway. This work has been performed largely by prisoners, aided by the employment of enlisted engineers, firemen, teamsters, and overseers paid from quartermaster's appropri-

ations, and "further aided by a rock crusher and roller furnished by citizens of El Paso." As stated by the chief quartermaster:

It would probably be difficult to find another record of such economical road construction.

The work was a matter of post administration and has been most creditably performed. It is expected that it will be completed in about four months.

This road is of primary importance to the post. Upon original establishment of post it was set apart and declared by county commissioners as a county road of first class, the United States Government to maintain and repair same for military use, and it was designated as a military road and several thousand dollars were legally expended by the Government on its construction and repair.

Some embarrassments have arisen from the question as to whether the jurisdiction thereover was such as to warrant the expenditure of public funds for its repair and maintenance.

Recently the county commissioners have tendered a deed or concession to the Government of the road to the limit of their authority, subject to conditions which seem entirely reasonable and just. While this concession conveys no absolute legal title or control, it seems to be complete for all military purposes, and its acceptance has been recommended—and "it may be considered as somewhat in the light of an easement, which would warrant necessary expenditure of public funds for the maintenance of the road in question."

Transportation facilities consist of the El Paso and Northeastern Railroad, which passes through edge of post, with provision for flag stop. Discharge of freight is also provided for by means of a switch, which delivers supplies directly to the bay and coal shed and quartermaster's and commissary's storehouses.

Track scales are, however, needed for weighing supplies on the cars.

* * * * *

Some supplies, especially perishable articles, are habitually delivered in El Paso and hauled to the post by Government teams.

Request was made for a right of way for a water pipe line on the railroad right of way across reservation to supply the city. This commercial company had held that its right of way was, or could be, naturally included in the grant to the railroad company. A different view, however, was taken at department headquarters, and such work prevented until specially authorized by the War Department. The question of the company furnishing some facilities for helping out post water supply, if found necessary, in consideration of concession, if granted, has been presented, but this matter is still pending. Its importance calls for early settlement.

FORT McINTOSH, TEX.

This station, one of the oldest in the department, is in a fair state of repair. The work of the year placed it in good condition, but on April 28, 1905, it was visited by a severe storm, which involved the entire destruction of one set of officers' quarters and the distilling plant, and more or less serious damage to nearly every building in the post.

The post was soon after visited by the Chief of Staff and Quartermaster-General, who at once allotted \$10,000 for the renovation of the damaged buildings.

The question of a system of sewerage for this post has presented itself again and again through many years. The difficulties encountered have been prohibitive in their extent. After a thorough investigation of the situation and extensive correspondence, plans were finally devised which promise to meet the

requirements. The expense and difficulties, however, were so great that in receiving bids upon the work it was finally divided into two parts, contract actually awarded being limited to the main portion, which extends from the post to the bluffs along the river, the question of the sewer outlet, which involves a distance of about 240 feet of pipe, becoming a separate problem.

The plans for plumbing post buildings are in the hands of the post authorities, having been returned for completion of necessary details.

Yellow fever protection at this point has been made a matter of special consideration, all reasonable requirements of screening having been met by contract completed in the month of June. Crude oil has also been supplied there for mosquito disinfection.

Supply delivery at the post is effected by means of a spur of the International and Great Northern Railroad extending to the immediate vicinity of the storehouses, rendering wagon transportation for such supplies unnecessary.

The reservation, which includes 208 acres, is without target range.

FORT RINGGOLD, TEX.

This post, though isolated in its location, has the advantage of excellent brick buildings, with sewage accommodation. With the allotment of the year it has been placed in fairly good repair.

Water supply is from the Rio Grande. Considerable inconvenience has been encountered in that connection, owing to the shifting bank of the river. An attempt to sink a well there has, however, been in progress for over a year. The peculiar formation encountered has rendered the undertaking one of repeated delays and heavy expense to the contractor from breaking or deflection of the pipe.

The well was sunk to a distance of about 1,950 feet, with casing of 6-inch pipe. Water at that depth was encountered in a formation which, from the log of the well and from reference to geological records, must be the water-bearing sands of the Travis Peak formation. This water is under artesian pressure, but the sand arose in the pipe with such force as to prevent a definite test of the flow.

Under a subsequent contract for \$3,500 provision was made for enlarging the casing to 8 inches in diameter to the full depth of the well. The matter is now waiting upon the success which may finally attend the work of rotating the 8-inch casing to the proposed depth.

The limit of the original contract was 2,000 feet, but with the possibility of striking an abundant supply of water deeper in the Travis Peak formation, the best water horizon in this section, provision was recommended for extending the well beyond that depth.

While the ultimate result of the continuance of the work on this well may not prove all that is desired, the great advantage which success would afford, both to this post and to others, in determining possibilities on the Rio Grande, appears to warrant continuance of the work, so long as the present possibility exists of a successful termination.

The purchase of the old post trader's store for \$1,500, and an allotment of \$835.50 for repair and remodeling, has made this building suitable for a post exchange.

Transportation facilities greatly improved by completion of north branch of the St. Louis, Brownsville and Mexico Railway to Fordyce, on Rio Grande, about 21 miles below post.

In answer to correspondence the railroad company "gave a definite assurance to the effect that storage for freight and regular station accommodations for passengers would, as soon as practicable, be afforded here. At present, however, such facilities consist simply of a box car at that station for the purpose."

Since January 1, 1905, the handling of supplies between railroad

station and post was by Government teams—the manual labor by details of enlisted men.

“Contract has been executed to cover this service during the coming year.”

Passenger transportation between Fordyce and Fort Ringgold, passing by way of Rio Grande City, is provided by a stage line with daily service.

An additional water tank is needed at this post of a capacity of about 50,000 gallons.

There is a target range at this post, which affords good facilities for small-arms practice.

An ice machine, with a capacity of 4,000 pounds daily, is in operation at this post by the Quartermaster's Department. Sales of ice are, under authority from the Quartermaster-General, made to the citizens of Rio Grande City.

FORT BROWN, TEX.

This post, as previously reported, consists of two sections, the lower portion having originally been provided for one battery field artillery and one troop of cavalry.

The quarters in this, the older and more southerly portion of the post, consist of brick buildings, which are still capable, with proper renovation and care, of rendering a number of years' service. The two portions of the post are about half a mile apart from center to center.

The other portion, which is of later construction, has mainly frame buildings. The hospital and office building thereon are alone constructed of brick.

Repair allowance during the year has placed the post in a good state of repair, requiring only the usual percentage of renovation for the current year.

There was completed at the post during the year a commissary building.

There was also constructed a post exchange and gymnasium building, at a cost of \$16,080.

Final plans and specifications for the completion of sewer system and installation of plumbing were forwarded from this office on March 3, 1905.

The chief quartermaster presents at length important views and recommendations on “the question of protection of the river bank at Fort Brown from further loss by encroachment of the river.” As these matters were fully presented in letter from his office of May 13, 1905, attention is here invited to the salient points.

He states, referring to brush revetments or filling:

The form of work used has given good results in checking erosion of the bank, but does not promise permanently to relieve the difficulty.

At the upper post the caving was checked at a distance within 4 feet of the main wall of the administration building, the porch having been undermined and destroyed.

At the lower post the undermining of the river has seriously involved two brick buildings, originally officers' quarters, and the steepness of the bank does not show any tendency to acquire a permanent slope.

It is not believed that the loss there has been materially checked, although the banks at both the upper and lower post are well lined, for the present, with mattress work.

As a matter of fact, the soundings and charts recently made under instructions of the Quartermaster's Department show that the channel in the river there is about as near to Fort Brown as it has ever been shown in official chart.

Unless other means are adopted the annual work of lining the bank with brush must continue until the end of time or until the loss of the reservation has been completed. Hence, instead of trying simply to hold the reservation in its reduced limits or to resist the action of the current at the point of its greatest strength, it is held by this department that measures should be taken to control or weaken the current by work located above each point protected.

The present system of mattress work to continue, strengthened by riprap, willow planting to be added in the bank as may be practicable.

This work would include: First, two or more deflecting revetments placed about a quarter of a mile above the reservation and opposite Fortin Paredas

with a view to relieving the erosion occurring on the bank at Brownsville and on the reservation front immediately below; second, similar revetments at the same distance above the location of the threatened buildings in the old post and opposite Casamata on the Mexican bank.

All these revetments to be placed longitudinally with the bank and limited to within 20 feet therefrom.

While this work should be carefully planned and disposed with reference to the interests of both sides of the river, it is similar to about 12 revetments on the Mexican sides and it is not believed that, after due conference and full information as to the nature of the work, the Mexican Government would object to such construction.

It may be noted that, while the treaty of the Boundary Commission prohibits the formation of embankments or deflection of current by artificial means, the interpretation placed by the Commission upon this treaty authorizes the retention of any work which did not project beyond 5 meters from the bank. (Report of Commission June 24, 1897, p. 33.)

A final plan suggested itself in this connection and has received some consideration among the interests on both sides of the river.

This expedient would consist of a mutual arrangement for a slight change in the channel above two points in which the respective Governments are interested, by cutting off on the American side a portion of the promontory above Santa Cruz and on the Mexican side a portion of the latter point. The necessary land for the purpose at each of these points would cost comparatively little, and if the revetments were placed at the new points where the strain would fall, the result would naturally relieve the danger to the Mexican Government of the loss of important interests at Fortin Paredas and to the American Government of the loss of embankment at the city of Brownsville and the post of Fort Brown.

While the recommendations of the chief quartermaster are entitled to serious consideration, it seems that Captain Jadwin, of the Engineer Corps, who was present at the time of annual inspection, does not fully agree with the chief quartermaster as to the necessity for incurring the large expense for the proposed revetment work and other measures.

Captain Jadwin stated in substance that careful continuance of the brush mattress work as now would be a safe and economical way of affording the necessary protection.

Since the annual inspection there have been very high and prolonged floods in the river, and the post commander reports that not only has no damage been done, but that very considerable accumulations of silt have placed the buildings a number of feet farther from danger. Whatever the merits of the question may be, it is certainly important that effective protection be assured—whether by mattress work alone, or by that work in combination with the revetments, etc., proposed by the chief quartermaster.

JACKSON BARRACKS, LA.

This post is in process of reconstruction by the quartermaster at New Orleans under the immediate direction of the Quartermaster-General.

During the year the buildings were transferred as follows for post use: One barrack building, one noncommissioned staff quarters, and one bakery.

* * * * *

Transportation service between this post and its substations, Forts Jackson and St. Philip, has been performed as usual by employment of commercial companies for individual trips. The local work is largely aided by a light launch, which is used for transporting perishable supplies and for the work of placing targets.

Several sets of officers' quarters at Jackson Barracks in unstable condition—one reported as unsafe, instructions given to remedy defect by iron rods as braces and anchors.

Fort St. Philip has been under consideration as a site for a complete change of plan and construction of new buildings, this plan having been furnished by the Quartermaster-General on July 11, 1904.

Six changes of garrison at Fort St. Philip have been made during the year, and transportation therefor was furnished by the Quartermaster's Department.

Yellow fever protection in this district has received special attention, a liberal amount having been allowed for screening and the necessary crude oil furnished. Fort St. Philip, allotment was also made during the year for \$400 for cleaning away brush, and for Jackson Barracks allotment of \$540 for cleaning open drains has also been made.

No ice is manufactured by the Quartermaster's Department in this district.

The old ice machine at Fort St. Philip, which was reported unserviceable, was recently ordered on the possibility of a yellow-fever epidemic.

FORT SILL, OKLA.

The War Department reservation at this point consists of tracts as follows: Pertaining to post uses, 23,740 acres, to Apache Indian prisoners, 26,987.30 acres, wood reservation, 22,400 acres, making a total area of about 73,127 acres.

The first two named reservations are contiguous to each other; the wood reservation is about 11 miles from the nearest border of the main reservation.

The Apache Indian prisoners use for farming purposes 63 mules and 7 horses. These animals are on the quartermaster's return, but are reported unserviceable for military purposes.

The water supply of post is of excellent quality, and was further developed during the year by sinking additional surface wells.

The present storage capacity consists of a steel tank of 50,000 gallons. An additional tank was placed under contract and work begun in past fiscal year, to cost \$9,036.

Distributing system defective owing to smallness of its pipes. Steps taken to replace small 3-inch main with one of 6 inches diameter, but upon recent inspection of post by Chief of Staff and Quartermaster-General decided to postpone action in view of "probability of early reconstruction of the post upon different plans."

Preparations made to supply artillery encampment, Second Provisional Regiment, Field Artillery (6 light batteries field artillery), ordered to report and organize at Fort Sill June 30, 1905.

FORT RENO, OKLA.

This post occupies a position of one liable to be abandoned in the near future, its defective water supply having formed a serious obstacle to its maintenance.

The well water from this source is stated to be largely impregnated with gypsum, and while serving the ordinary purpose for cooking and not absolutely unfit for drinking purposes, it is not suitable for the latter use. Drinking water for the entire post is brought from Caddo Springs, about 3 miles distant.

The target range there is used in connection with the annual division small-arms competition. It was put in thorough order shortly before the close of the fiscal year, at a total cost of \$507.25.

During the year the old hospital was fitted for barrack purposes, at a cost of \$3,000, and now answers fairly well for that purpose.

The buildings of old pattern and construction, and as post may be abandoned, their extensive renovation not warranted. They are in fair condition and moderate repairs will insure average comfort. Water storage in wooden tanks somewhat deteriorated. A small amount (\$80) allotted for repairing them.

Malarial conditions prevail at post. Special attention given to screening against mosquitoes. An allotment of \$581.90 just made for that purpose.

FORT LOGAN H. ROOTS, ARK.

The allotments to this post have been well applied toward its repair and renovation.

Water supply has presented some special difficulties. The post system is supplemental to that of the Home Water Company of Little Rock. The water thus furnished, which is from the river and filtered by the alum process, is that used in Little Rock generally.

Drinking water obtained from spring on reservation about one-quarter mile from center of post.

Supply from Little Rock interrupted by break in pipe where it crossed the river. Post without adequate supply for a number of months. Partly remedied "by attaching the post distributing main to the Argenta system, located on the same side of the river, but finally resort was had to well points sunk in the sand, projecting into the river from the border of the reservation."

The post system might be made entirely independent, but Little Rock Water Company proposes to replace pipe across river and renew service to post. These matters now in abeyance.

Buildings under process of construction at this post consist of administration building and gymnasium and post exchange building, the work on each of these having been commenced. The construction of buildings to increase the post to battalion garrison is now contemplated.

Other work completed consists of the construction of root cellar, installation of railroad scales, and extensive repairs to hospital, also extension to sewer system to meet the requirements of the post exchange.

FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEX.

"Upon completion of proposed addition this post will provide for accommodations of one regiment of infantry, four troops of cavalry, and two batteries of field artillery."

As the result of the inspection by Chief of Staff and Quartermaster-General, an allotment was made "of about \$35,600 for the complete repair of the barracks of the infantry garrison, and this work is now in progress."

The work completed during the year consists of a 300,000-gallon tank, at a cost of about \$17,852.25. Other improvements in progress under the constructing quartermaster consist of the erection of a set of buildings to include six sets of bachelor officers' quarters, the mess halls and kitchens for the barracks to form individual messes for the respective organizations. Lavatories for the old post have also been recently authorized for the infantry garrison.

Drill ground.—A small and entirely inadequate tract of ground had been rented for \$40 per month. Efforts were made to purchase a tract of 300 or more acres, sufficient for extended-order movements, but without success—the price fixed by owners was \$200 per acre, and appraised by a board of officers at \$75 per acre. Authority granted to rent for drill purposes during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1906, tract of 340 acres at \$100 per month—without an agreed proviso for renewal.

An appropriation of \$75,000 has been made for a new hospital—work not yet begun.

The post needs "a complete system of lighting by electricity in lieu of oil lamps. Estimates for the installation of such a system, including departmental headquarters, Fort Sam Houston, and the addition thereto, were forwarded on May 12 last." Offers have been made

"by a commercial company for furnishing the current, and reported to the Quartermaster-General." This matter is pending.

DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS.

The buildings have a large amount of decaying woodwork. Very limited repairs made during past year, owing to low appropriations. Special allowance of \$3,256 recently made for this purpose, and work is in progress. New servants' buildings for officers' quarters, with lavatories, in process of construction.

While the segregation of the headquarters service from its former connection with the post work under the local quartermaster has given more effective results, it has necessarily entailed an additional amount of work.

The increase of business, owing to the enlarged field of work, in purchase of general staple supplies for the different posts, under Circular Quartermaster-General's Office, No. 10, of 1905, has also increased the depot service at these headquarters.

The service at these headquarters now involves three relations: The usual headquarters administration; a post service with reference to the care of grounds, quarters, and other buildings, and the depot service in connection with the purchase and shipment of supplies for posts throughout the department.

The force employed is not sufficient for the performance of the work except under abnormal demands upon employees, who, as a result, necessarily work beyond regular hours. In case of sickness of any such employee, his work unavoidably falls in arrears and adds a further burden in the endeavor to regain the lost time.

As a result of this, the maintenance of the work must be considered as in a more or less precarious state. It can, however, be reported that the entire scheme of the segregation of the headquarters service from the post has afforded satisfactory operation and excellent results.

CLOTHING AND EQUIPAGE GENERALLY.

The new-style clothing has in the past year been issued to the First Cavalry at Forts Clark and Sam Houston and to the Twenty-sixth Infantry at Forts Sam Houston, McIntosh, Ringgold, and Brown, and the Second and Fifteenth Batteries, Field Artillery, at Fort Sam Houston, Tex.

The old-style clothing, with new full-dress uniform, is still supplied to the Twenty-ninth Infantry at Fort Bliss, Tex., the Thirtieth Infantry at Forts Logan H. Roots and Reno, and the Eighth Cavalry at Fort Sill, Okla.

The two companies of Coast Artillery at Jackson Barracks, La., are still supplied with the old-style uniform.

In view of the fact that the light-weight olive-drab clothing is not yet ready for issue, and since the heavy weight can not be worn without discomfort in this climate, the continued issue of khaki clothing for summer use was authorized at all posts in this department, regardless of the question of supply of new uniform.

The new service campaign hats have been issued to troops at all posts in the department, and, from reports received, they appear to be satisfactory.

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST YELLOW FEVER.

The previous careful provisions to avoid yellow-fever infection have been continued during the past year. In order to be prepared in advance for emergency demands which might arise for screening buildings as a precaution against yellow-fever infection, the sum of \$1,700 was reserved for this purpose from the total allotment made for the year to this department for barracks and quarters repairs. This amount was afterwards allotted upon estimates from the different posts and aided by allotments aggregating \$1,323.85, made for this purpose by the Quartermaster-General.

These measures have been supplemented by a liberal allowance of crude oil, about 260 barrels having altogether been supplied to the posts of the department.

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION.

This detail was thoroughly reviewed and reported upon to the Quartermaster-General. This resulted during the past year in the greatest reduction being made on all lines.

TARGET RANGES.

Target ranges have been rented during the year as follows: For Fort Sam Houston, at Leon Springs (for small-arms practice), for the season, \$180; at Kerrville (for field artillery practice), without cost. For Camp Eagle Pass (for small-arms practice), for two months, \$30. For Fort McIntosh (for small-arms practice), for the season, \$230.

RECRUITING OFFICES.

Those coming under the jurisdiction of the chief quartermaster, Department of Texas, are located at Houston and Dallas, Tex., and Oklahoma city, Okla.. Various auxiliary stations thereto have been opened and discontinued from time to time.

NATIONAL CEMETERIES.

Those now under the control of the chief quartermaster of the department are located at Brownsville and San Antonio, Tex. No special provisions for their maintenance appear to be necessary for the present year. The national cemeteries in the State of Louisiana were, on February 2 last, transferred to the jurisdiction of the quartermaster at New Orleans.

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PROGRESSIVE MILITARY MAP WORK.

Under the provisions of Special Orders, No. 36, current series, Headquarters Southwestern Division, the Quartermaster's Department furnished transportation as follows:

At Fort Bliss, Tex.: Three 4-mule teams and drivers, by draft on post transportation, and 12 mounts, hired at \$9.75 per month each.

At Fort Brown, Tex.: One 4-mule team and driver furnished from post supply and four mounts hired at rate of \$15 per month each.

At Fort Clark, Tex.: One 4-mule team and driver and four mounts supplied from post transportation.

At Fort McIntosh, Tex.: Three 4-mule teams and drivers from post supply, ten cavalry horses by transfer from Fort Sill, and two mounts hired at rate of \$15 per month each; also one 4-horse wagon with driver, at \$2.50 per day.

PERSONAL SERVICES.

In the record of quartermaster's service in this department in the past year there has been much to commend and as little fault to be found as could be expected in any business of such extent and of so many changes in personnel.

To my testimonial at the close of the past year I have, under the test of another year of service, to renew my acknowledgment of the excellent service rendered by Capt. L. J. Fleming, assistant to the chief quartermaster, and Capt. O. B. Rosenbaum, quartermaster Twenty-sixth Infantry, Fort Sam Houston.

Captain Fleming, in the discharge of his dual position as constructing quartermaster, under the direction of the Quartermaster-General, and as assistant to the chief quartermaster, has continued his excellent service throughout, his duties having been performed in the most conscientious and efficient manner and with due regard to the demands of each position under his charge.

Captain Rosenbaum's service has involved many demands at various times which have rendered especially requisite good judgment, and unfailing industry. In every case he has acquitted himself with the greatest credit and added to the record which he has attained through previous years.

To Capt. Elmer Lindsley, quartermaster First Cavalry, Fort Clark, Tex., acknowledgment is also due for his sterling efficiency and reliable attention to duty.

Of the officers of the department generally it may be said that their record for the year is one of sincere endeavor to meet the requirements of the service

and discharge the duties imposed upon them in a manner tending to the good of the post as well as of the service generally.

In concluding his very interesting report the chief quartermaster "invites attention to the practice at some posts of habitually placing the quartermaster on the general-duty roster or requiring him to perform other work making continual demands upon his time."

His many onerous duties usually occupy all his time, and besides, owing to insufficient clerical help, he "must devote a considerable portion of his own attention to the preparation of papers."

As the chief quartermaster justly states:

To make such a position an incidental one in the post service must be considered as placing an obstacle in the way of the proper discharge of the service upon which the efficiency of every branch of the post administration is more or less dependent.

It is remarked by the department commander that the duties of a battalion or squadron quartermaster and commissary at a post where he is post quartermaster and commissary (as at five or six posts in this department) are so constant and important and require so much care, energy, and administrative capacity that these officers should have the rank, pay, and allowances of a first lieutenant mounted, the same as the battalion or squadron adjutant. It is recommended that the law be changed accordingly.

The following is a summary of the principal tabulated statements accompanying the report of the chief quartermaster:

Statement of vessels owned and operated by the Quartermaster's Department at Jackson Barracks, La., during the fiscal year 1905.

Steam launch <i>Lancaster</i> :	
Amount paid for repairs.....	\$115. 82
Amount paid for running expenses.....	2, 412. 42
Total	2, 528. 24

Statement of vessels under rental or charter at Jackson Barracks, La., during the fiscal year 1905.

<i>Grover Cleveland</i> and one tug.....	\$950. 00
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Statement of all troops and property transported during the fiscal year 1905.

Passengers	5, 262
Animals	339
Stores:	
Subsistence	pounds 2, 823, 994
Quartermaster	do 2, 559, 250
Ordnance	do 1, 169, 956
Medical	do 22, 567
Signal	do 34, 407
Miscellaneous	do 2, 261, 805
Total	8, 871, 979

Record of transportation of troops and their equipment.

Passengers	\$11, 219. 74
Sleeping cars	1, 469. 00
Live stock	1, 059. 50
Stores in excess of free allowance.....	2, 251. 25
Hauling by wagon	10. 41
Total cost of movement.....	16, 009. 90

Report of telephones rented in department during the fiscal year 1905.

Stations	10
Phones	16
Total cost	\$890.25

Report of number and cost of street-car tickets used in department during the fiscal year 1905.

Stations	6
5,450 tickets, at 5 cents	\$272.50
50 tickets, at 35 cents	17.50
Total	290.00

Report of amounts paid from appropriation "Transportation of the Army" during the fiscal year 1905.

Total amount	\$120,318.97
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Statement showing outstanding accounts on June 30, 1905.

Fiscal year—

1903	\$10.00
1904	38.74
1905	28,595.27

Consolidated statement of expenditures for the fiscal year 1905.

No. of posts and stations.	Purpose.	Amount.
1	Coal for steam launch	\$1,425.00
15	Fuel	78,113.40
12	Forage	138,578.82
2	Purchase public animals	6,896.00
2	Repairs national cemeteries	326.72
11	Payment civilian employees	84,950.10
10	Payment extra-duty men	17,212.81
6	Scavenger service	3,060.00
13	Repairs to buildings and screening (under A. E., 1022)	32,498.57
11	Repairs to buildings based on annual inspection reports	2,818.50
7	Construction, purchase, and repairs of post exchange and gymnasium buildings	57,234.00
2	Construction public buildings	21,376.00
11	Photographs of public buildings	211.83
12	Construction root cellars	1,847.00
8	Construction and repairs of hospitals	31,303.90
7	Repairs to quarters for sergeants, first class, Hospital Corps	1,826.96
8	Construction and repairs to walks and roads	4,172.21
3	Repairs to bridges and culverts	482.80
5	Construction and repairs to fences	5,549.71
8	Maintenance of pumping plants	2,230.37
10	Construction, repairs, and maintenance of water and sewer systems	30,131.82
11	Repairs and maintenance of plumbing	7,412.27
3	Repairs and maintenance of heating systems	396.10
4	Repairs and maintenance of ice plants	1,903.23
4	Repairs and maintenance of sawmills	661.10
2	Construction and repairs of mess-hall machinery	702.14
1	Repairs to electric-light plants	495.00
3	Purchase and repairs of refrigerators	229.39
4	Construction and repairs of wagon and track scales	1,493.54
11	Repairs and maintenance of means of transportation	3,505.56
11	Rental and repairs of target ranges	2,416.00
5	Erection and repairs of flagstuffs	788.90
	Total	541,850.25

Report of allotments made for trees and shrubbery during the fiscal year 1905.

Headquarters Department of Texas.....	\$424. 00
Fort Bliss.....	228. 25
Fort McIntosh.....	75. 00
Total.....	727. 25

Report of expenditures on account of Apache Indian prisoners of war at Fort Sill, Okla., during the fiscal year 1905.

Forage.....	\$4, 548. 24
Fuel.....	1, 760. 40
Interpreter and packer.....	1, 826. 00
Total.....	8, 134. 64

Report of miscellaneous expenditures during the fiscal year 1905.

Printing at department headquarters.....	\$2, 352. 53
Internments.....	90. 50
Apprehension and delivery of deserters.....	4, 635. 90
Disinfecting.....	97. 30
Protection river bank at Fort Brown.....	1, 926. 85
Repairs to wharves in artillery district of New Orleans.....	46. 83
Repairs to launch at Fort St. Philip, La.....	541. 27
Purchase of skiffs and oars at Jackson Barracks, La.....	58. 20
Total.....	9, 749. 38

Report of expenditures made under special allotments for repairs to barracks and quarters during the fiscal year 1905.

Department headquarters.....	\$3, 263. 40
Fort Bliss.....	657. 94
Fort Brown.....	1, 920. 00
Fort Clark.....	268. 36
Fort McIntosh.....	9, 692. 00
Fort Reno.....	72. 50
Fort Ringgold.....	2, 520. 58
Fort Sam Houston.....	36, 332. 27
Fort Sill.....	2, 911. 30
Total.....	57, 638. 35

Report of receipts and disbursements of quartermaster funds during the fiscal year 1905.

Appropriation.	On hand and received.	Disbursed.	Deposited to credit of United States.	Balance on hand.
Regular supplies.....	\$250, 806. 80	\$250, 591. 84	\$20. 28	\$194. 18
Incidental expenses.....	57, 641. 82	57, 566. 67	2. 01	73. 14
Cavalry and artillery horses.....	6, 597. 11	6, 442. 91	154. 20	
Army transportation.....	313, 998. 93	289, 526. 64	18, 840. 93	5, 631. 36
Barracks and quarters.....	88, 229. 13	75, 503. 85	2, 073. 59	10, 652. 19
Target ranges.....	2, 417. 99	1, 219. 47	607. 16	591. 36
Hospitals.....	18, 108. 42	17, 864. 45	20. 50	218. 47
Clothing and equipage.....	2, 242. 59	1, 318. 13	787. 59	136. 87
Miscellaneous receipts.....	32. 40		32. 40	
Equipment, officers' schools.....	77. 25	77. 25		
Barracks and quarters, Philippine Islands.....	22. 50		22. 50	
Sergeants, Hospital Corps, quarters.....	1, 827. 63	1, 809. 21	4. 23	14. 19
Repairs roadway, national cemeteries.....	330. 50	163. 60	163. 90	
National cemeteries.....	3, 826. 35	3, 567. 31		259. 04
Pay, superintendents national cemeteries.....	3, 880. 00	3, 880. 00		
Military post exchanges.....	42, 459. 36	26, 025. 07	7, 500. 00	8, 934. 29
Total.....	792, 473. 28	735, 588. 90	80, 229. 29	26, 705. 09

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT.

The report of the chief commissary of the department, Capt. Samuel B. Bootes, commissary, U. S. Army, shows a very satisfactory condition of affairs in that department during the fiscal year, and efficient administration has been effected in a very economical manner.

The markets for the purchase of supplies (stores and property) were as follows:

For Forts Bliss, Brown, Clark, McIntosh, Ringgold, Sam Houston, Tex., and Forts Logan H. Roots, Ark.; Reno and Sill, Okla.; the general supplies came from St. Louis, Mo. Bacon, issue, and all other packing-house products were furnished from Kansas City, Mo.

Rice, coffees, sugars, sirups, and shrimps for posts within the State of Texas were furnished from New Orleans, La., as were all stores and property for Jackson Barracks, La. Bacon, issue, and packing-house products for Jackson Barracks came from Chicago, Ill.

Kansas City also supplies for the posts of Forts Reno, and Sill, Okla., fish, canned, dried, and pickled; cereals; evaporated fruits; vinegar; salt, issue, coarse and table; soap, issue; butter; crackers, and family flour.

Camp Eagle Pass, Tex., is rationed from Fort Clark, Tex., and Fort St. Philip, La., from Jackson Barracks, La.

Fresh vegetables for Jackson Barracks are purchased at New Orleans all the year, and at other posts within the department Colorado vegetables were supplied during the winter and purchases made as near the vicinity of the posts as possible during summer months.

During the summer of 1904, and in compliance with instructions from the War Department, the chief commissary made an inspection of the subsistence affairs at the different posts in the department. At all posts affairs were found generally satisfactory, and all defects noted were pointed out and remedied.

During my inspection of the posts, the desire among all was universal for an extension of the list of sales articles, especially to include the items of listerine and talcum powder. As these articles were included among those recommended in my report of the inspection made on September 1, 1904, and since that time, and for a long time before, the extraordinary quantities of listerine and talcum powder embraced in the different requests for exceptional articles from officers and enlisted men prompt me to renew my recommendation for these articles especially to be added to the regular sales list. They are not perishable, in the strict sense of the word, and will keep almost indefinitely. Owing to the extreme heat in the Department of Texas and the varieties of skin diseases prevalent and common here, these articles are an absolute necessity.

Under the heading of "root cellars" the chief commissary reports that:

In my opinion a root cellar at that post (Fort Brown, Tex.) is a necessity, the great difference between carload rates and those for less makes it a matter of economy for the Government to construct the root cellar. At present there is no place for the storage of potatoes and onions except under the subsistence storehouse, where subsistence supplies are stored, and this is in violation of paragraph 896, Subsistence Manual. It is again recommended that the construction of the root cellar at Fort Brown be authorized.

An approved estimate for a root cellar at Fort Brown, Tex., was forwarded January 20, 1905, and on April 20, 1905, a communication was forwarded making inquiry as to what action had been taken on the original estimate. Nothing has been heard from these papers, and I concur in the recommendation of the chief commissary of the department, that the same be authorized and constructed at an early date.

The St. Louis, Brownsville and Mexico Railway to Brownsville and to Fordyce, 21 miles from Fort Ringgold, makes the question of supplying Forts Brown and Ringgold much easier, and generally does away with the losses which were due to a long haul and rough handling of stores transported many miles by wagons.

The résumé of subsistence operations at all posts in the department shows that the average cost of the rations in the department was 15.23 cents.

Of the total net loss in the department, \$736.07, there has been collected by reports of survey, etc., \$160.81, which reduces the amount of actual loss to the Government to \$575.26. Of this loss by far the greatest part consisted of fresh vegetables, which in all amounts to \$558.96. The price of vegetables in the vicinity of posts during the winter months was from 91 cents to \$2 per 100 pounds, and as vegetables on which the loss occurred were purchased in Colorado at an average cost of 30 cents per 100 pounds, it will readily be seen that the method of supply represents a saving to the Government. Therefore, if the loss on fresh vegetables be not considered, then the actual net loss to the Government for the year ending June 30, 1905, would be \$16.30.

The following financial statement shows the funds received and expended of the appropriation "Subsistence of the Army: "

Receipts and expenditures, 1904.

RECEIPTS.	
On hand July 1, 1904.....	\$5, 887. 27
Transfers from officers.....	2, 489. 40
Total	8, 376. 67
DISBURSEMENTS.	
Paid by vouchers.....	\$6, 045. 44
Transferred to officers.....	46. 50
Deposit credit Treasurer United States.....	2, 284. 73
	8, 376. 67

Receipts and expenditures, 1905.

RECEIPTS.	
Treasurer United States.....	\$75, 000. 00
Transfers from officers.....	3, 855. 30
Total	78, 855. 30
DISBURSEMENTS.	
Paid by vouchers.....	\$43, 066. 21
Transferred to officers.....	20, 285. 00
On hand June 30, 1905	15, 504. 09
	78, 855. 30

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

Lieut. Col. Louis M. Maus, deputy surgeon-general, U. S. Army, has been chief surgeon of the department since April 18, 1905, when he reported and relieved Maj. Henry P. Birmingham, surgeon, U. S. Army, of that duty.

In speaking of the medical officers on duty in the department, the chief surgeon reports that:

Of the 20 medical officers in the department 8 are contract surgeons, 2 of whom are in charge of independent posts. While many of these quasi officers

are excellent physicians and surgeons, their anomalous position in the military hierarchy is subversive of proper military discipline among the Hospital Corps and troops. The following excerpt from the report of the chief surgeon of this department for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1901, is apropos: "A more anomalous or singular body does not exist in any army or organization in the world. * * * They perform the duties of commissioned officers, but have not the privileges or rights of one. They may be court-martialed or dismissed or discharged without trial." It may be added, also, that while in charge of a hospital the contract surgeon has the same authority as to the command of the Hospital Corps as a commissioned medical officer, but at duty in a hospital where a commissioned medical officer is present his authority in this direction ceases. The corps of contract surgeons is constantly changing, through discharge from the service, either for official reasons or from a desire to enter civil practice, thereby losing to the Government an invaluable experience which only comes after years of association with troops. For the best interests of the service and health of the troops, the medical service should be entirely confined to commissioned medical officers, and it is hoped that the Congress of the United States will realize the present inadequacy of the Medical Corps of the Army for the proper performance of this duty and make suitable provision by increasing the corps to the required number.

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While this recommendation of the chief surgeon is important and worthy of serious consideration, the permanent increase of the Medical Department in numbers sufficient to replace the contract surgeons does not seem to have even a remote chance of becoming a law. In view of this situation and the fact that contract surgeons have for more than thirty years ably supplemented the professional work of the Medical Department in garrison, camp, and field, and taken their full share in the most active and dangerous service with troops at home and abroad, it is believed that they are fully entitled to some tangible change of status which will give them more authority in their professional work. That, as a class, they are competent and have given proper attention to their duties there can be no question. Many of them are reputed to have shown the greatest zeal and to have achieved marked success in their treatment of diseases, injuries, and wounds, and it is believed that some of our best medical officers successfully began their services as contract surgeons.

As the suggestion of permanent increase of the Medical Department is not probable for years to come, it is recommended that all contract surgeons within some age limit, and under other necessary restrictions, be appointed and commissioned as lieutenants and provisional assistant surgeons for a period of four years unless sooner discharged, such commission to be renewed on the recommendation of the Surgeon-General. They would then form a separate and distinct class not in the line of promotion. This method would vest them with the much-needed disciplinary and administrative authority which they do not now possess.

The chief surgeon calls attention to the fact that one dental surgeon is unable to attend to all the dental work in the department as long as men are enlisted without due regard to the condition of their teeth.

Since the Government has undertaken to look after the teeth of the Army, some regulations governing the examination of the teeth at enlistment should be made. This could be done by adding to the figure card cuts showing upper and lower teeth, upon which the appropriate remarks regarding defects could be made and recorded with the soldier's enlistment papers. A copy of this should be forwarded to the company commander where the recruit is assigned,

which would be available for examination by the dental surgeon during his official visits to posts.

At the close of the fiscal year there were 106 enlisted men of the Hospital Corps on duty in the department.

Generally speaking, the performance of duty by the Hospital Corps during the year has been satisfactory, though the number of experienced nurses is below the number desired. It is a difficult matter to secure qualified nurses, either by special enlistment or transfer from the line, for the compensation allowed.

At present the pay of hospital sergeants, first class, and hospital sergeants, first year, is, respectively, \$45 and \$25 per month, while that of the private, first class, is \$18. Not infrequently these noncommissioned officers have the most important medical duties imposed upon them during the absence of the surgeon and during the movements of troops without medical officers. I can not conceive why the duties of quartermaster and commissary sergeants of cavalry and infantry, who receive \$34 per month, are considered more important than those of the hospital sergeant who gets only \$25 per month.

In my opinion, hospital sergeants, first class, should receive, first year, \$60 per month; hospital sergeants, \$40; hospital corporals, \$30; privates, first class, \$25, and privates, \$20, besides their other allowances.

The department commander has repeatedly recommended an increase of the pay of noncommissioned officers of the line, and it is believed that some substantial corresponding increase should be made in the pay of noncommissioned officers and privates, first class, of the Hospital Corps. It is not believed, however, that a hospital sergeant should receive more pay than a regimental quartermaster or commissary sergeant of cavalry or infantry, nor more than a first sergeant of line companies. The recommended increase is out of proportion to what noncommissioned officers in the line receive, and the discrimination is illustrated by the showing that a hospital corporal would receive \$5 more per month than a first sergeant and \$12 more than a sergeant; a hospital private, first class, as much as a first sergeant and \$7 more per month than a sergeant; an ordinary private \$2 per month more than a sergeant. Such distinction does not give full recognition to the important duties now required of noncommissioned officers of the line.

The percentage of enlisted men of the Hospital Corps, a fraction over 3 to every 100 enlisted men, is authorized for service in the United States.

The percentage of medical officers to troops is a little less than six-tenths of 1 per cent, the ratio found by past experience to be sufficient.

GENERAL SANITATION OF POSTS IN THE DEPARTMENT.

The sanitary condition of the majority of the posts may be regarded as having been very good during the past year, especially at those posts of most recent construction.

DISPOSAL OF EXCRETA.

With the exception of Forts Brown, Clark, and McIntosh, Tex., modern sewer systems have been installed, the night soil at these posts being disposed of by means of the dry-earth system. The system is mixed at Forts Sam Houston, Ringgold, Sill, and St. Philip, where a few dry-earth closets are used.

BARRACK FLOORS.

Many of the barrack floors in the department have deteriorated through the excessive use of water during the weekly preparation for inspection. Pre-

vious to this function the floors as a rule are deluged with water by means of buckets or hose, swept out, and allowed to dry practically without mopping. The finest hard-pine floors become soft, splinter, and wear out within a few years by this process. This practice should be prohibited, and the floors dried off by thorough mopping immediately after scrubbing. Estimates should be submitted at posts where the floors are not too far gone for planing, sand-papering, and thoroughly polishing. The latter can be done successfully if the polishing is persevered in, as is the case in many of the hospital wards in the department where the daily use of the floor is as great as in barracks. Once polished it becomes an easy matter to keep them clean by mopping and occasionally going over them with a suitable preparation.

WATER SUPPLY AT THE VARIOUS POSTS.

Fort Bliss: From two artesian wells, 255 and 312 feet deep, pumped into tank and distributed through system. Excellent.

Fort Brown: Pumped from the Rio Grande and distributed through a system. Alkaline. Drinking water used, distilled.

Fort Clark: Pumped into tanks from natural artesian spring and distributed through a system. Distilled water used for drinking purposes.

Jackson Barracks: From cisterns and Mississippi River; latter distributed through a system. Cistern and filtered water used for drinking.

Fort McIntosh: From well 50 feet deep, Rio Grande River bottom. Distributed through a system. Hard. Distilled water used for drinking purposes.

Fort Reno: From 6 wells, 35 feet deep, in Canadian River bottom. Distributed through a system. Alkaline. Drinking water hauled in wagon from Caddo Springs.

Fort Ringgold: From Rio Grande River; distributed through a system. Alkaline. Distilled for cooking and drinking.

Fort Logan H. Roots: From Little Rock system; occasional breaks. Drinking and cooking hauled from springs on reservation.

Fort Sam Houston: From artesian well; distributed through a system. Excellent.

Fort Sill: Pumped from springs in Medicine Bow Creek bottom; distributed through a system. Excellent.

Fort St. Philip: From Mississippi River; through a system. Distilled for drinking.

HEALTH OF THE COMMAND.

During the year there were 20 deaths in the department. No deaths occurred at either Fort Logan H. Roots, Ark., or Fort Ringgold, Tex.

The total number of men discharged for disability was 51, and of these 29 resulted from causes existing prior to enlistment and 11 from causes arising since enlistment, but not in the line of duty. In this connection the chief surgeon remarks that:

The large number for causes existing prior to enlistment would suggest carelessness in the examination at time of enlistment.

The majority of recruit examinations have been made by civilian physicians who are ignorant of the physical characteristics required of recruits. In his annual report of 1904 to the Secretary of War the Surgeon-General states "that the physical examination of recruits is a specialty, the mastery of which requires instruction, study, and experience. It is not a branch of general medicine in which civilian practitioners can be expected to attain the results of qualified officers of the Medical Department." Since the increase of the Army in 1901 its recruitment has, to a large extent, been placed in the hands of young and inexperienced line officers, many of whom were recently appointed from the volunteers, with little or no experience in this important duty, officers invalided home from the Philippines, field officers awaiting the return of their regiments or promotion, and retired officers, many of whom were superannuated and physically unable. The result of this system has been that for several years past an unusually large number of men have been accepted

with disabilities requiring their immediate discharge. It is believed that many of such men have subsequently been discharged on surgeon's certificate of disability with diseases noted as contracted in the line of duty, thereby placing a greater burden on the Government in the way of pensions.

The present system also requires the services of two officers, namely, the recruiting officer and the medical examiner, the former of whom would be unnecessary, provided commissioned medical officers were assigned to this duty. In view of the various details requiring the absence of line officers from their troops, many of the regiments at present are hopelessly depleted of company, troop, and battery officers. When we take into consideration the unnecessary additions to the pension list, the depletion of regimental officers, and the inefficiency of the troops through the present method of enlistment, it would seem only reasonable that a better system be inaugurated. The recruitment of the Army should become a part of the duties of the Medical Department and the Medical Corps increased to meet the new demands. It is believed, for economical reasons alone, this recommendation is worthy of consideration, and that the lessening of the pension list would more than pay for the increase of medical officers required, without considering the improvement in the physical efficiency of the Army and the liberation of a large number of line officers whose services are required with their organizations. Medical officers with an experience of five years with troops should be selected, thereby insuring thoroughly prepared officers for this duty; besides such a detail for two years in a large city would give him ample opportunity, outside of office hours, to keep posted on the professional advancement of the day.

The recruitment of the Army having been presented by the chief surgeon in his able report on the subject, with the recommendation that such recruitment "should become a part of the Medical Department and the Medical Corps increased to meet the new demands," the department commander remarks that he is unable to perceive any special military necessity for doing so.

There are many details pertaining to recruiting service which have no relation to the Medical Department. Some of these details affect discipline, instruction, and administrative functions incident to the commanding of troops by a line officer. Where no medical officers at hand, there are civilian physicians, experts on examinations for life insurance, who are believed to be competent to pass upon the physical soundness of an applicant for enlistment. At any rate, upon the arrival of recruits at a depot they are subjected to a rigid physical examination, which should be conclusive.

There is no doubt that there has been carelessness, due to young and inexperienced line officers on recruiting duty, but that unfavorable condition no longer prevails.

Old and experienced line officers are generally good judges of the kind of men, not only from physique, but otherwise, best suited for soldiers, and such officers, and in fact the younger ones who give careful attention to such duties, ought to be a safe dependence to keep the Army filled up with good material.

There are 64 officers on recruiting duty, from lieutenant-colonels down to first lieutenants, there being 8 of the latter. Of the entire number, 28 are retired officers; the remaining 36 belong to the infantry, cavalry, and artillery.

It is true that a number of officers who have been temporarily disabled from wounds, disease, and exposure in hard service have been favored with such details, and it is believed they have discharged their duties satisfactorily.

It has been a time-honored custom to reward officers who have served longest with their commands with a recruiting detail for two years. It may come around once in a lifetime, rarely twice. It

hardly seems necessary to take this prospect away from the line officers and place this military duty under the exclusive control of the medical officers of the Army.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

Fort Brown heads the list, with a percentage of 36.41; Fort Ringgold, second, with a percentage of 29.87; Fort McIntosh, with 27.46; Fort Sam Houston, with 26.62. Forts Bliss and Sill stand at the foot of the list, with 7.04 and 7.45, respectively.

A monthly physical inspection, nude, was made of the enlisted men during the year at most of the posts in the department in order to detect concealed venereal diseases. The number of cases treated during the fiscal year 1904 was 619, while the number for the fiscal year 1905 was 617, a difference of but 2, with practically the same command. The percentage of discharges for venereal diseases this year only equals 66 per cent of those for last year, which probably was the result of detection and earlier treatment.

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EPIDEMICS, ENDEMICS, AND PREVAILING DISEASES.

Fortunately no epidemic of pestilential disease has visited this department during the past year, though epidemics of diphtheria, cerebro-spinal meningitis and measles have occurred at one or more posts. Seven cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis occurred at Fort Bliss since the arrival of a batch of 105 recruits at that post June 6, 1904, from Columbus Barracks, Ohio.

* * * * *

Eighteen cases of diphtheria occurred at Fort Sam Houston during the period from September 11, 1904, to March 2, 1905, 5 of whom were officers, 7 soldiers, and 6 women and children. A rigid quarantine was imposed, and an immunizing dose of antitoxin given to the contacts. All cases were treated with antitoxin in large doses, with excellent results.

Two cases of yellow fever occurred in the town of Laredo, Tex., March 14 and 18, 1904, both of which were citizens. One case of yellow fever developed in the garrison at Fort Brown August 21, 1904, the patient being a soldier, who recovered.

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MALARIAL FEVERS.

Three hundred and forty-one cases of malarial fever occurred in the department during the past fiscal year, 57 of which were at Fort Logan II. Roots, Ark., and 92 at Fort Reno, Okla., which two posts head, respectively, the list of this disease. It is not surprising that a large percentage of malarial cases occurred at Fort Reno when we consider the lack of protection against mosquitoes there. During my official visit to that post in May I noted that none of the six barracks were screened, though mosquitoes were abundant. I urgently recommended to both the commanding officer and the quartermaster that a requisition be made at once for the necessary gauze to screen all the buildings at that post requiring it.

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The question of the proper screening of the barracks at Fort Reno has been taken up and attended to.

With the exceptions noted, the recommendations of the chief surgeon are fully approved and will be carried into effect as far as may be practicable.

PAY DEPARTMENT.

The report of Maj. Hamilton S. Wallace, paymaster, U. S. Army, chief paymaster of the department, contains the following financial statement for the past fiscal year:

Financial statement.

DEBITS.

Balance on hand July 1, 1904	\$62, 903. 04
Received from Treasury warrants	703, 000. 00
Received from officers of Pay Department	666, 790. 00
Received from soldiers' deposits	57, 198. 05
Received from army post collections	43, 485. 92
	<hr/> 1, 533, 377. 66

CREDITS.

Disbursements	\$1, 417, 426. 22
Deposited to credit of Treasurer United States, unexpended balance of appropriation	5, 699. 82
Deposited to credit of Treasurer United States, army post collections	43, 485. 92
	<hr/> 1, 466, 611. 96
Balance on hand June 30, 1905	66, 765. 70
Balance on hand June 30, 1905, includes transfer of \$19,000 in transit.	

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

The necessity for the United States arsenal at San Antonio and its great importance are clearly shown by the report of the chief ordnance officer of the department, Col. John Pitman, Ordnance Department, U. S. Army, who is also the commanding officer of the arsenal.

That ordnance requisitions can be immediately supplied within the limits of this department is a great factor in keeping troops in this southwestern country properly fitted for field service to meet any contingencies which may arise.

The ordnance and ordnance stores supplied during the year included a large amount of cavalry and infantry equipment, horse equipment, ammunition, targets, and target supplies, besides the following arms: Three hundred and eighty-eight United States magazine carbines, caliber .30; 540 United States magazine rifles, caliber .30; 303 Colt's revolvers, caliber .38; 60 light cavalry sabers; 90 Hospital Corps knives and sheaths.

During the year many of the company and troop commanders complained about the United States magazine rifle and carbine, caliber .30, not shooting accurately on account of the wearing away of the rifling. I took the matter up with the commanding general of the department, who directed me to report the facts to the Chief of Ordnance, United States Army, which I did, and on February 24, 1905, the commanding officer of the San Antonio Arsenal was directed by wire to issue to each organization in the department 20 rifles or carbines, and immediately upon the issue of these arms a corresponding number of the old arms then in the possession of the organizations should be turned in to San Antonio Arsenal to be repacked and reshipped to the commanding officer, Springfield Armory, for targeting with muzzle rest. This has been complied with.

The fact that these new arms were right on the spot and ready for issue made it possible to put them into the hands of the men before the target practice began, and this issue no doubt had its effect in the resulting good scores made generally in the department.

The 3-inch B. L. saluting gun has been authorized for every post in the department, and they are fast being issued, and when received the old 3-inch M. L. rifles are being turned in to the commanding

officer, San Antonio Arsenal, together with their carriages and implements if in a serviceable condition.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER.

First Lieut. George Van Horn Moseley, First Cavalry, aid-de-camp, was the chief signal officer of the department during the entire year, having relieved Capt. Eugene O. Fechét, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, of that duty July 1, 1904.

Referring to the Laredo-Brownsville telegraph line, the chief signal officer reports that—

This line, 237 miles in length, puts Forts Ringgold and Brown, Tex., in telegraphic connection with the Western Union office at Laredo, Tex., and under an agreement entered into between the Chief Signal Officer of the Army and the Western Union Telegraph Company, this line also connects the otherwise isolated Corpus Christi-Brownsville Western Union line with their main system at Laredo. The Western Union Telegraph Company have notified the Chief Signal Officer of the Army that they wished to abrogate their agreement, and when this goes into effect the Western Union lines will go direct to Brownsville and Fordyce, the terminus of the St. Louis, Brownsville and Mexico Railway, and 21 miles from Fort Ringgold.

Instructions have since been received to submit the line to an inspector with a view, it is understood, of having that part no longer needed condemned and recommended for sale to the highest bidder. The matter is now entirely in the hands of the department commander, and the line need not be disposed of until assurances are received that the Western Union Company are prepared to give satisfactory service to Brownsville and Fordyce.

The Laredo-Brownsville line has given satisfactory service during the year, and has generally been in first-class working order. The lower part was badly washed out during the floods last fall on the lower Rio Grande, which cut Fort Brown off from telegraphic communication from September 12 to October 6.

Up to June 1 the line was administered through a first-class sergeant to the Signal Corps at Fort Ringgold. Upon his being granted a furlough the headquarters of the line was transferred to Carrizo, Tex., with a civilian operator of long service in charge. This arrangement has been very satisfactory.

The report shows that the Government also maintains and operates the following telegraph lines:

The Fort Clark-Spofford line, 10 miles; the Fort Bliss-El Paso line, 6 miles; the department headquarters-San Antonio line, 2½ miles, commercial; the Fort Reno-Fort Reno Station line, ¼ mile.

These telegraph lines put the respective posts in immediate connection with commercial telegraph systems. There are two lines from department headquarters to the city of San Antonio, one going to the Western Union office and the other to the Postal office. These are both private wires owned and maintained by the companies named, the Signal Corps only furnishing the operator at headquarters and his instruments.

The status of all these lines should remain unchanged. They are constantly needed for the prompt transaction of official business, and the matter of their future maintenance was made the subject of a special report in indorsement to the military secretary of the department under date of June 20, 1905.

In addition to the foregoing the report of the chief signal officer shows that the Government also maintains a telephone line from Fort Bliss to El Paso, connecting with the commercial system of that city.

Under the heading "Local post telephone systems" the chief signal officer makes the recommendation that—

In order to obtain the best results this material (material expected for local post telephone systems), when received, should be installed under the direction of a competent man of the Signal Corps.

The above recommendation will be carried out provided there are competent signal corps men available to supervise this work when it is undertaken.

In this same connection, the chief signal officer calls attention to General Orders, No. 59, current series, War Department, as follows:

General Orders, No. 59, in prescribing what buildings of a post should have phones, did not authorize a phone for the post corral and pump house. This has been made the subject of a special communication under date of June 17, in which the importance of these two phones was represented.

The above has been corrected in General Orders, No. 110, current series, War Department, which changes the authorized allowance of phones for post telephone systems.

EQUIPMENT OF TARGET RANGES.

During the year the standard telephone equipment was installed on the target ranges at Forts Sill, Reno, and Bliss. The ranges at Forts Clark, Logan H. Roots, and Ringgold have been recently recommended for this improvement, and the standard equipment will probably be installed on these ranges during the coming fiscal year. With these last three ranges so equipped all the small-arms target ranges of this department owned and used by the Government for small-arms firing will have been equipped with the standard outfit. For the rented ranges there is ample material always available for temporary telephone systems, which give satisfaction.

It was brought to the attention of the department commander after the close of this year's target practice that on one range the telephone system did not give satisfaction. Had this been properly reported at the time, a competent signal sergeant would have been sent to the post with all necessary material to install a proper system which would have given satisfaction.

The enlisted men of the Signal Corps serving in the department are as follows: First-class sergeants, 2; sergeants, 2; first-class privates, 2; privates, 1.

There are 7 civilians employed, with a monthly compensation aggregating \$230.

DISBURSEMENTS AND RECEIPTS.

All disbursements for this department have been made since July 1, 1904, in the office of the Chief Signal Officer of the Army on vouchers approved at this office. This simplifies matters and lessens the work here.

A total of \$1,203.13 has been received during the year from "this line tolls" of the Laredo-Brownsville line, and this amount has been deposited to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States.

A total of \$684.31 has been received from "other line tolls," and this amount has been turned over to the proper authorized representatives of the commercial line concerned.

Under "Remarks and recommendations" the Chief Signal Officer calls attention to the occasional carelessness on the part of post signal officers in properly keeping their records and in rendering their reports, and steps will be taken to remedy this defect. He also calls attention to the fact that during the past year a great deal of signal corps material has been installed by the labor of troops, and that application for extra-duty pay for the men so employed has been disallowed.

In the opinion of the department commander, the law authorizes the payments of extra-duty pay to enlisted men so employed for ten days or more, and probably a claim made by men so detailed would be allowed by the Treasury Department.

OFFICE INSPECTOR OF SMALL-ARMS PRACTICE.

First Lieut. Garrison McCaskey, Twenty-fifth Infantry, aide-de-camp, has been inspector of small-arms practice for the entire year.

His report shows that a total amount of \$2,416 was allowed the department from the appropriation "Shooting galleries and ranges."

The largest reallocations made from the above amount by the department commander were \$600 to Fort St. Philip, La., where an entirely new range had to be constructed, and \$507.20 to Fort Reno, Okla., to put that range in proper condition for the division cavalry, infantry, and pistol competitions.

The inspector of small-arms practice calls attention to the fact that the funds allotted this department from appropriation "Shooting galleries and ranges" for the fiscal year 1906 were allotted directly to posts, and he makes the following recommendation in reference thereto, in which I fully concur:

It is recommended that in future the funds from appropriation "Shooting galleries and ranges" be allotted to the Department of Texas in one amount, to be reallocated to posts by the department commander. The necessity for this plan is evidenced by emergencies which often arise late in the target season, occasioned by storms and other unforeseen causes, which require the keeping on hand at these headquarters of a surplus to meet these emergency expenditures.

Also in making allotments to posts it often transpires that unexpended balances are returned for various reasons, which are reallocated by the department commander to other posts much in need of the funds.

As the allotments to posts have been made by the War Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1906, it will be necessary to obtain authority from that source to reallocate these funds as the emergencies arise, thus causing multifarious correspondence and unnecessary delay.

Under the heading "Target ranges" the inspector of small-arms practice calls attention to the fact that all posts in the department are provided with target ranges owned by the Government, except Forts Brown, McIntosh, and Sam Houston, Tex.

The necessity for the Government to own its target ranges is becoming more apparent each year. Land is gradually enhancing in value in this section and the money expended each year on rented ranges brings uncertain results and but temporary benefits and conveniences. Fort Sam Houston, the largest garrison in the department, should be the first post provided with a permanent range, and one which could be used for all three arms of the service. Such a range, it is believed, could be purchased within a convenient distance from the post and at a more reasonable price now than in the future.

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Companies I, K, and L, Twenty-six Infantry, stationed at Fort Brown, Tex., have had their target practice at Fort Ringgold, Tex., the journeys being made overland according to the rules laid down for practice marches.

The Second and Fifteenth Batteries, Field Artillery, held their target practice at Camp Getty, Kerrville, Tex., marching overland to and from the range.

The infantry and cavalry stationed at Fort Sam Houston had their practice at Leon Springs, 19 miles from the post. Kerrville is 71 miles from Fort Sam Houston, and Fort Ringgold 101 miles from Fort Brown. There are two great advantages of having the target range some distance from the post. The first is the necessary practice march to and fro, with the experience that about six weeks in camp gives the troops, and second, the troops can devote their entire time to target practice without interruption.

In case Fort Ringgold is abandoned, I recommend that the reserva-

tion be held indefinitely as an outpost of Fort Brown or Fort McIntosh, and used by those posts for target practice and field exercises once during each fiscal year.

Referring to General Orders, No. 79, current series, War Department, the inspector of small-arms practice gives the following interesting statistics which he deduces from that order:

The Southwestern Division stands first in the order of divisions. The Department of Texas has third place in the order of departments. Fort Sam Houston, Tex., stands fourth in order of posts. In order of regiments the first Cavalry has the thirteenth place, while the Twenty-sixth Infantry holds the twelfth. Company A, Twenty-sixth Infantry, has fifth place in order of organizations for the Army. In the list of expert riflemen, Second Lieut. Alden M. Graham, First Cavalry, holds seventh place, and First Lieut. Lindwood E. Hanson, Twenty-sixth Infantry, the eleventh, and the best record for slow fire. The Department of Texas had 59 expert riflemen, which is nearly 25 per cent of 235, the number for the Army, exclusive of the Philippines Division.

It is remarked by the department commander that the competition of officers with men for places on the team is hardly fair to the latter.

The officer has an advantage in preparation and otherwise over the soldier competitor. When the latter realizes that he is displaced from the team by a competing officer who entered this contest where the soldier hoped to gain some distinction with his service arm, he is not likely to feel much encouraged, and it is believed he would be better satisfied to compete with his own class who have had opportunities more nearly equal.

A recent competition illustrates the point: Sixty-one infantry competitors consisted of 8 officers and 53 enlisted men; infantry team consisted of 2 officers and 13 enlisted men; 30 cavalry competitors consisted of 5 officers and 25 enlisted men; cavalry team consisted of 5 officers and 1 enlisted man; 35 pistol competitors consisted of 6 officers and 29 enlisted men; pistol team consisted of 2 officers and 5 enlisted men.

The aggregate shows 19 officers and 107 enlisted men as competitors; 47+ per cent of officers won places on teams, and only 18— per cent enlisted men were successful. In other words the 19 officers won 9 team places and the 107 enlisted men won only 19 team places.

It is believed to be more in accordance with a spirit of fairness and for other important military reasons, as well, that the officers and men should compete in separate and distinct classes, and a change to this method is therefore recommended.

THE CANTEN.

What was known as the "canteen" feature of the post exchange was abolished by act of Congress approved February 2, 1901, which in positive, express terms prohibited "the sale of, or dealing in, beer, wine, or any intoxicating liquors by any person in any post exchange or canteen or army transport or upon any premises used for military purposes by the United States."

In compliance with Circular No. 8, of February 15, 1905, from War Department, special efforts have been made by personal inspection, interviews, and correspondence to obtain from every intelligent and credible source the most complete data, pro or con, on the subject. I prepared a series of 16 queries covering the ground, to be answered fully by the ten post commanders of this department

after they had made full investigation. All appear to have stated facts within their personal knowledge, and a number called upon their company commanders to do the same. At eight of the ten posts I had before me in a personal interview, first, one noncommissioned officer of longest service of each company; second, the oldest private, and third, the newest recruit of each company, each class separately. There were 105 in all, representing 35 companies out of 44 in the department. The 35 noncommissioned officers and the 35 oldest privates varied from about 6 to 30 years of service as soldiers of honorable and efficient record. The 35 recruits from 2 weeks to about 6 months. The talks were free and informal, the subject clearly explained and understood. At one or more posts copious notes were taken of all that was said. Every phase and condition of the soldier's life, at home or abroad, was brought out in a conversational way with each one of the 105, and this, too, in a mild manner, free from any indication of bias or prejudice. The reports, interrogations, and interviews began March 6 last, and continued for four months or more. They contain a mass of information and a multitude of facts on the subject. The facts, however, are mainly a reiteration of those which have been presented for years. The reports would make a volume of themselves; and though some officers could not refrain from giving their opinions, based on their knowledge of facts, the great majority have observed the caution to state facts impartially without comments.

The reports, however comprehensive and interesting, are so voluminous that they can not be given here, but important features will be incorporated substantially in a special report.

I submit the following facts, which are known to me from observation and investigation in the course of my service almost constantly with or near troops since 1861. These facts can not be successfully controverted.

(1) At least 80 per cent of soldiers drink stimulants. The majority drink moderately of beer and light wines, when they can get these beverages.

A minority drink strong liquors, and, usually, only a small percentage drink to excess, more or less frequently.

(2) The building of costly and elaborately furnished recreation and amusement rooms has but little, if any, influence on the drinking habit, and scarcely touches the canteen question.

(3) For years the majority of companies have had and still have day rooms for recreation and amusement, billiard tables, libraries, papers, books, magazines, etc.

(4) There are now, and long have been, post exchanges more or less suitable to soldiers' needs in almost every post. Lunch counters are maintained, where a soldier can get extras in the way of food and "soft drinks."

(5) The ration has been improved. Comparing it with the rations of most foreign armies, etc., it is fine; but on the basis of the recognized American standard of living, which is the true one, among good mechanics and industrious laborers, it is not and never has been "everything that can be reasonably desired." Many soldiers frequently vary the monotony of the ration by getting a meal or a lunch outside the company or general mess.

This is especially true since the profits of the canteen were cut off, because they largely went to improvement of messes.

(6) The company fund is at all times and under all conditions an indispensable necessity to meet the many sudden and unforeseen contingencies for the benefit of the men. Good company commanders have recognized this from time immemorial. Any suggestion as to its abolition shows lack of correct information of this need of the service.

(7) A well-regulated canteen, where beer and light wines may be sold, conserves discipline, controls and decreases drunkenness and disorders, lessens absenteeism, and to that extent tends to reduce desertions.

(8) In a few instances in the past, canteens were not properly regulated by some weak and indulgent post commanders. Orders and regulations were to some extent evaded or not strictly enforced. Such cases were exceptional.

(9) A certain class of men will drink strong intoxicants under any and all conditions. The only tendency the anticanteen law has on this class is to increase the number.

(10) Saloons where everything drinkable is sold nestle around garrisons within easy reach; open early, close late, and thus induce the patronage of squads and "gangs" of the soldiers of the command.

At these outside saloons the habit of "treating" is encouraged to the utmost. As one soldier stated, "The fact is that if there are four or five of us it means four or five drinks all round and the 'barkeep sets them up' so we will come back."

(11) The anticanteen law either adds to the number of saloons contiguous to garrisons or increases their sales and profits. These saloon keepers are financially benefited by the law and are interested that it be not repealed. (There are now 9 well-patronized saloons within 100 feet of the boundary of the Fort Sam Houston reservation and 2 more in close reserve, making 1 saloon for each of 11 organizations—10 companies and 1 band.)

(12) It is a fact, developed by searching investigation, that a strictly regulated "canteen" gives but little, if any, encouragement to young soldiers (recruits) to begin drinking even beer and wine, while usually with the outside saloons the tendency and practice give the greatest encouragement and include nearly all the stronger alcoholic drinks.

(13) A very few old soldiers, not over two or three, and less than half of the recruits interrogated, are opposed to or indifferent as to the reestablishment of the canteen.

(14) As a rule the few total abstainers did not want the canteen for themselves, but were convinced that "it would be a benefit to the company messes and to the men who wanted a quiet and orderly place in the post where they could sit down and take a glass of beer when they wished to do so."

As this matter is so important and so far-reaching in its results, a separate report will be submitted without delay, giving substantial extracts from the reports submitted. These reports are very numerous and some voluminous, and were received from 10 post commanders, 15 company commanders, 4 majors, 4 captains (other than

company commanders), 5 medical officers, 1 lieutenant (exchange officer), and 1 chaplain—total, 40.

CONCLUSION.

In view of present conditions, which indicate that the Army is entering upon an era of stagnation in promotion, the remedial recommendation of last year is renewed that legislation be secured "for the voluntary and compulsory retirement of officers with an increased grade similar to that which obtains in the Navy and Marine Corps."

As then stated by "a very competent officer who investigated the subject, it appears that 'if the graduates' (of the Military Academy) 'are put in as additional it will cost the Government just as much, if not more, than to provide vacancies by the proposed method.'"

In concluding this report the recommendation is emphasized as one of the most important for the welfare of the Army in stimulating the laudable ambition of competent and meritorious enlisted men, that just and liberal provision be made for the promotion to second lieutenantcies of those who have passed and those who may pass the necessary examination therefor.

Promotion from the ranks has, under proper restrictions, given the Army some of its very best officers in all grades; and there are to-day, and there will be in the future, unless the bars are too tightly closed against them, many promising noncommissioned officers well worthy of this advancement, which is in live accord with the true spirit of our republican form of government.

Respectfully submitted.

J. M. LEE,

Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

THE MILITARY SECRETARY,

War Department.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE COLORADO.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE COLORADO.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE COLORADO,
Denver, Colo., August 9, 1905.

SIR: I have the honor to render the annual report of the administration of the Department of the Colorado for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1905, in compliance with General Orders, No. 89, series 1901, and No. 47, series 1902, Headquarters of the Army.

The distribution of troops June 30, 1905, was as follows:

Stations of troops.

Posts.	Commanding officer.	Troop.
Fort Apache, Ariz.	Maj. Hoel S. Bishop, Fifth Cavalry.	Troops E and G, Fifth Cavalry.
Fort Douglas, Utah ..	Col. Benjamin C. Lockwood, Twenty-ninth Infantry.	Headquarters, band, and Companies E, F, G, H, and L, Twenty-ninth Infantry; Twelfth and Twenty-second batteries, Field Artillery.
Fort Duchesne, Utah.	Lieut. Col. Charles W. Mason, Twenty-ninth Infantry.	Companies K and M, Twenty-ninth Infantry; Troops F and M, Fifth Cavalry.
Fort Grant, Ariz.	Capt. John M. Jenkins, Fifth Cavalry.	Troop D, Fifth Cavalry.
Fort Huachuca, Ariz. .	Col. Clarence A. Stedman, Fifth Cavalry.	Headquarters, band, and Troops A, B, C, and I, Fifth Cavalry.
Fort Logan, Colo.	Col. Francis W. Mansfield, Second Infantry.	Headquarters, band, and Companies A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, and M, Second Infantry.
Whipple Barracks, Ariz.	Capt. Willard A. Holbrook, Fifth Cavalry.	Company I, Twenty-ninth Infantry, and Troop L, Fifth Cavalry.
Fort Wingate, N. Mex.	Lieut. Col. George H. Paddock, Fifth Cavalry.	Troops H and K, Fifth Cavalry.

Indian scouts: Fort Apache, 10; Fort Grant, 11; Fort Huachuca, 2; Fort Wingate 4. Total, 27.

The movement of troops within the Department or transferred from it during the period covered by this report are shown in the following tabulated statement:

Changes of stations of troops during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1905.

Troop or company.	Regiment or corps.	Departure.	From—	Arrival.	At—
G	Third Cavalry.	June 7, 1905	Fort Apache, Ariz.		Transferred to Department of Dakota.
H	do	do	do		Do.
B	Fifth Cavalry..	Sept. 1, 1904	Fort Grant, Ariz.	Sept. 4, 1904	Fort Huachuca, Ariz.
C	do	Aug. 24, 1904	Fort Huachuca, Ariz.	Aug. 27, 1904	Fort Grant, Ariz.
C	do	June 13, 1905	Fort Grant, Ariz.	June 16, 1905	Fort Huachuca, Ariz.
D	do	June 3, 1905	Fort Huachuca, Ariz.	June 6, 1905	Fort Grant, Ariz.
M	do	May 11, 1905	Fort Apache, Ariz.	May 22, 1905	Fort Duchesne, Utah.

Changes in personnel (enlisted.)

Gain:		
Enlistments	1,213	
Reenlistments	350	
From desertion	86	
Loss:		
Discharged (expiration term service)	878	
Discharged (disability)	69	
Discharged (by order)	181	
Retired	20	
Died	19	
Deserted	360	

The strength of the department, present and absent, June 30, 1904, was 172 commissioned officers and 2,574 enlisted men; the strength on June 30, 1905, 162 commissioned officers and 2,301 enlisted men.

MILITARY SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT.

Lieut. Col. T. F. Davis relieved Lieut. Col. A. C. Sharpe as military secretary of the department April 5, 1905.

January 1, 1905, the card system of keeping records was installed and is giving as good satisfaction as could be expected with so small a force of clerks; two additional efficient clerks are essential to properly perform the work of the office. Each clerk now is required to be his own searcher for previous papers. There is no regular returns clerk, and keeping up and getting in shape to be printed the various indexes of records must necessarily become of secondary consideration.

JUDGE-ADVOCATE'S DEPARTMENT.

Lieut. Col. George M. Dunn, judge-advocate, was in charge of this department until May 3, 1905, when he was transferred to the Department of California by paragraph 13, Special Orders, No. 92, War Department, April 21, 1905.

Capt. H. S. Hawkins, jr., commissary, at present in charge of office, in addition to his other duties, reports as follows for the year:

There were no commissioned officers tried by court-martial during the period covered by this report. The total trials by general court-martial was 197, 4 less than the preceding year; convicted, 184; acquitted, 13. Trials by garrison court, 22; by summary court, 2,445; total, 2,467. Convictions, 2,340; acquittals, 127. There were 56 trials and convictions for desertion. Three hundred and sixty-nine desertions are reported in the department, with 86 apprehended or surrendered. Sentenced to dishonorable discharge, of trials by general court-martial, 106.

In the trials by general court-martial, offenses charged were under articles of war as follows:

Violation of—		Violation of—	
Article 17	18	Article 38	10
Article 20	3	Article 39	15
Article 21	8	Article 40	2
Article 31	1	Article 47	56
Article 32	25	Article 60	7
Article 33	12	Article 62	156

Strong effort has been made the past year to stop the sale and improper disposition of military clothing by enlisted men. Trials before United States courts of civilians charged with buying arms, ammunition, and clothing from soldiers have not resulted in convictions, but the matter will continue to receive attention until civilians inclined to indulge in this traffic are made aware of the law in the case. The law seems to be inoperative. The defense usually

made is that the clothing has been purchased from discharged soldiers. Uniform clothing should be so marked that no question could arise as to its issue by the Government, and upon the discharge of the soldier, or if for any other cause he may become separated from the service, the clothing should be purchased by the Government and destroyed. In view of the action taken by a general court-martial recently in session in this department, it is recommended that general instructions be promulgated as to privileged communications or confidential relations existing between medical officers and others of the military service. (See General Orders, No. 15, July 6, 1905, Department of the Colorado.)

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

Since July 20, 1904, the operations of this department have been under charge of Col. C. A. H. McCauley, chief quartermaster, within the limits of the usual routine.

Receipts and disbursements of funds by the chief quartermaster during the fiscal year were: Received account all appropriations, \$828,242.70; expended, transferred, etc., \$726,510.72; balance on hand, \$101,731.98; which is needed for the settlement of outstanding accounts.

The feeding of alfalfa entirely to stock at Fort Duchesne, Utah, proved detrimental, necessitating the issue of upland or prairie hay in part during the current fiscal year. Glanders, which were prevalent among cavalry horses at Fort Apache, Ariz., have about disappeared, no new cases having been encountered since 1904.

It is recommended that Fort Douglas, Utah, be furnished with modern system of lighting. The lamps now in use are unsatisfactory and not creditable to the Quartermaster's Department.

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT.

Maj. Barrington K. West, chief commissary, in charge during the entire year, assisted by Capt. H. S. Hawkins, jr., commissary, reports his department in satisfactory condition.

Receipts, all sources.....	\$224, 139. 16
Expenditures and transfers.....	117, 683. 53
Balance	6, 445. 63

No changes in commissioned personnel since last report; two clerks were transferred to Philippines division.

Supplies furnished were found satisfactory, excepting that at two posts complaint was made of quality of issue of flour made from Colorado wheat and purchased after careful test by usual methods. After long experiment in testing flours, the chief commissary recommended the adoption of flour-testing machines for use at all purchasing stations, with result that the commissary-general visited Denver and personally conducted experiments for two days with the machine, and they were ordered for each station. Great good is expected to result to the service by the use of the testing machine.

Recommendation made last year by the chief commissary is renewed, that a depot be established in Denver for his department where food supplies may be received and more carefully inspected before transfers to posts. The business of the past year in the purchase and distribution of supplies amounted to \$149,052.97, and it is believed the small additional expense called for by the establish-

ment of a depot would be warranted by increased efficiency of service that must result.

The chief commissary also recommends that each post in the department be visited by him once each year to permit him to examine into the care exercised in handling the ration, issues of beef, sales of supplies, baking of bread, and to gain better knowledge of the sources of local supply. Such inspections are deemed essential to intelligent acquaintance with surroundings by chiefs of departments to enable them to make proper recommendation on all questions affecting administration of their branches of the service, and the recommendation is approved.

Now that large bodies of troops are constantly traveling to and from the Pacific coast, he also recommends that a standard kitchen car for a command not less in size than a battalion should be adopted. This would enable the troops to be subsisted on the regular or garrison ration and with much greater comfort and convenience than at present.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

Lieut. Col. Edward B. Moseley, chief surgeon, reports mean strength of the department for the year, commissioned and enlisted, as 2,372.67, with 4 per cent constantly ineffective as a result of disease, wounds, and injuries, as against 4.10 per cent for the year previous. There were 21 deaths from all causes, 46 discharges on surgeon's certificate of disability, and 30 cases of infectious diseases reported.

From July 29 to October 24, 1904, no contract dental surgeon was on duty in the department. Since the latter date all posts have been visited by the dental surgeon, excepting Forts Douglas and Duchesne, Utah, where he is now operating. A total of 1,458 dental operations are reported for the year.

In the construction and repair of hospitals and quarters for the sergeants, first class, expenditures of \$5,185.85 and \$370.29, respectively, are reported. All posts in the department have been inspected by the chief surgeon during the year and separate reports in each case rendered through military channels to the surgeon-general. The prescribed systematic courses of instruction of the Hospital Corps have been followed throughout the year with good results. The personnel of the medical department, exclusive of the chief surgeon, was on June 30, 1905, 2 surgeons, 6 assistant surgeons, 7 contract surgeons, 1 contract dental surgeon, 86 enlisted men. In this connection attention is respectfully invited to the scarcity of medical officers on duty in this department, which is seriously felt when any of the surgeons desire leave of absence. Two additional medical officers are much needed in this department.

PAY DEPARTMENT.

The personnel of this department has experienced some changes during the year. Lieut. Col. George R. Smith, chief paymaster, assigned January 23, 1905, has been assisted by Maj. George F. Downey and Robert S. Smith. Capt. Preston Brown, paymaster, was attached temporarily April 14 to August 19, 1904, and Capt.

Henry B. Dixon, paymaster, since July 29, 1905. Receipts and disbursements reported:

Balance on hand July 1, 1904.....	\$101, 151. 27
Received all sources to June 30, 1905.....	1, 603, 889. 94
Disbursed, all accounts, to June 30, 1905.....	1, 651, 270. 33
Balance on hand June 30, 1905.....	95, 521. 80
Soldiers' deposits amounted to.....	89, 998. 36

The troops have been promptly paid each month as a rule, excepting at Fort Duchesne, Utah, where payment is made bimonthly by a paymaster in person. At present, with troops in the field in the vicinity of that post patrolling the Uintah Reservation prior to its opening for settlement, this mode of paying Fort Duchesne should continue. When normal conditions are restored this fall, it is recommended that the garrison be paid by express, which will effect a saving of 50 per cent in the use of transportation with escorts to and from railroad terminus.

SIGNAL CORPS.

This office has been administered by various officers during the year, generally by an aid-de-camp. Military telegraph lines in the department aggregate 273.5 miles, of which 42 miles, extending from San Luis, Ariz., to San Bernardino, Ariz., being of no further military use, will be sold in the near future after proper advertising. On the discontinuance this fall of Fort Grant, Ariz., as a military post, the line from Willcox, Ariz., 23 miles, may also be condemned and sold. Target ranges at most of the posts have been equipped with the requisite telephone systems. Posts not so provided will be supplied this year.

Experiments with motorcycles of the "Indian" and "Mitchell" types have not proved successful over the rough, mountainous, and sandy roads of this section of the United States; in level and populated districts the machines might be used to advantage in line-repairing trips. Accounts for messages sent and received over our military lines aggregate \$2,521.03. The repair station at Cooley's ranch, Arizona, on the line from Holbrook to Fort Apache, might be discontinued as not absolutely necessary, and considerable saving effected thereby. The enlisted personnel Signal Corps on duty June 30, 1905, in this department, 11.

SMALL-ARMS PRACTICE.

This office has been in charge of First Lieut. H. A. Drum, Twenty-seventh Infantry, aid-de-camp, and First Lieut. Douglas McCaskey, Fourth Cavalry, aid-de-camp, who report increased interest in target practice, with most satisfactory results throughout the department. The records for current year are not yet in. Those for 1904 were published November 16, 1904, in General Orders, No. 26, copy inclosed, in which the department commander expresses himself as follows:

The department commander desires to take advantage of this opportunity to express to the officers and enlisted men of the department his satisfaction with and appreciation of the results obtained during this year's target practice. Although practically half of the enlisted strength of the department is composed of men with less than one year's service, still the records show a decided increase in percentage by most classes, and especially in the general average.

The general increase attained, under the cited conditions, could be accomplished only by careful and earnest attention on the part of both officers and enlisted men, and shows that they fully appreciate the value of this, the paramount feature of the enlisted man's training.

The recommendation of increased pay for marksmanship contained in the above order is heartily concurred in.

Revision of the firing regulations for small arms is recommended in the paragraphs governing exemption from classifications in this most important duty of the soldier. Officers and enlisted men who do not complete the prescribed practice by reason of any exigency of the service should be excused from classification.

Commissioned officers and enlisted men should not be associated with each other in any competition for prizes. The present system is unjust to the enlisted man and discourages him. Separate competitions should be arranged for.

It is recommended that the division and army competitions be set for a later date in order that the months of May, June, and July may be designated as target season for the Department of the Colorado. April is not a suitable month for practice.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

The routine work of this office has been performed by the aids-de-camp, with nothing to call for special comment.

ATHLETICS.

This subject has received marked attention at each post in the department, monthly field days being held and the records of same compiled and published in general orders from these headquarters. The department athletic competition was held at Fort Logan, Colo., October 4, 5, and 6, 1904, with satisfactory results, which were published in General Orders, No. 25, series 1904.

The following recommendations in regard to athletics, made by the officer in charge, are concurred in:

1. That there be three post field days during the year, one each in March, June, and September, instead of the monthly field days now prescribed.

2. That an annual division or department athletic meet be held during October of each year.

3. That during the season the different post baseball teams be allowed to visit at other posts in the department at Government expense.

OFFICERS' SCHOOLS.

In the garrison schools for officers conducted at all posts the courses prescribed have been satisfactorily pursued and all officers declared proficient by examining boards, except in a few cases.

FIELD INSTRUCTION.

The programme for practical instruction of the troops in this department has been conscientiously observed. Weekly and biweekly practice marches, involving the solution of tactical problems and

the rendition of reports, with sketches of routes and positions, have been required, showing increased efficiency in these important duties.

USE OF TROOPS.

No calls have been made for the use of troops in aid of civil authority during the year, nor in connection with Indian affairs except to patrol the Uintah Reservation in Utah prior to its contemplated opening to settlement in September next. This duty is now being performed by troops from Forts Douglas and Duchesne, Utah.

CLERICAL FORCE.

Attention is respectfully requested to recommendations of my predecessors commanding this department that the salary of the chief clerk in this office be increased. The present incumbent, Mr. William S. Carr, is capable and efficient, with an experience of over forty years' service, and is assuredly deserving of advancement in the classified grades; his salary now is \$1,400.

The clerical force continues efficient and reliable, but should be increased by two clerks to permit of timely dispatch of business of the office, the reduction due to transfer of four clerks for duty at division headquarters being now seriously felt here.

POST EXCHANGES.

Exchanges have been maintained at all posts in the department for the entire fiscal year. Following is a statement of the receipts and expenditures at the various exchanges for the fiscal year:

Post.	Receipts.	Expenditures.
Fort Apache.....	\$39,562.68	\$35,440.78
Fort Duchesne.....	10,129.74	8,029.14
Fort Douglas.....	26,135.68	25,419.09
Fort Grant.....	8,449.53	8,373.91
Fort Huachuca.....	22,501.05	22,390.99
Fort Logan.....	27,494.16	26,883.08
Whipple Barracks.....	6,850.99	6,687.81
Fort Wingate.....	8,947.01	7,712.75

Reestablishment of the canteen feature of the exchange is recommended.

ABSENTEEISM.

Attention is invited to the large number of officers absent from their organization on detached service. As a partial relief from this condition, it is suggested that legislation be secured by which officers on general staff duty may be placed on same footing as those detailed in the staff departments, that their detachment from line duty may create vacancies.

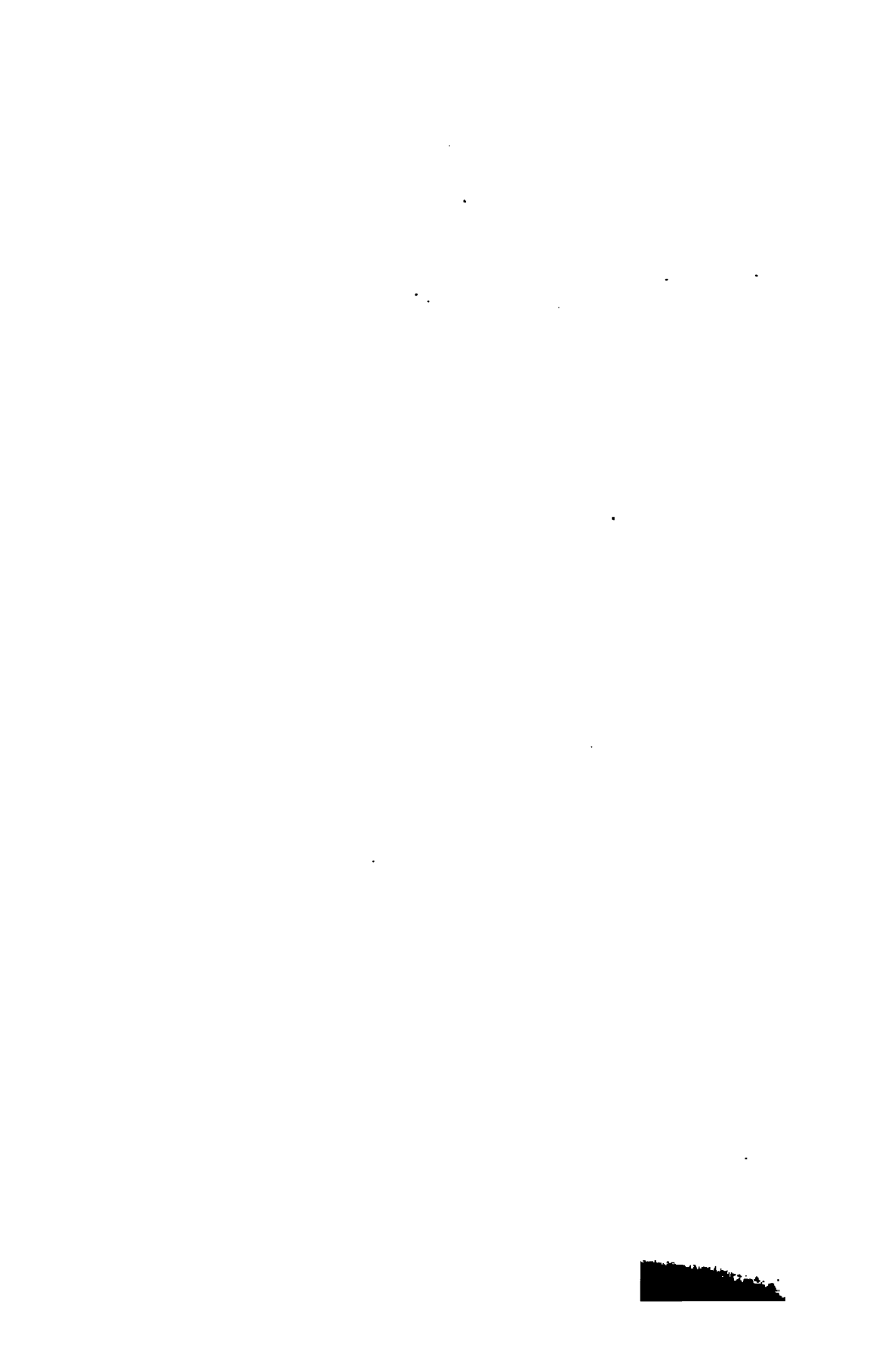
Very respectfully,

WM. S. McCASKEY,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

THE MILITARY SECRETARY,
War Department.

REPORT PACIFIC DIVISION.

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REPORT PACIFIC DIVISION.

HEADQUARTERS PACIFIC DIVISION,
San Francisco, Cal., August 15, 1905.

SIR: In respectfully submitting the report of this division for the year ended June 30, 1905, attention is invited, first, to the field exercises conducted during this period at American Lake, Washington, and Camp Atascadero, California, embracing joint operations of available regular troops and the organized militia of the Pacific States. Special full reports of these encampments, together with that held at Honolulu of the small regular and militia force there assembled, have been submitted, and the view therein expressed of the permanent benefit accruing to both the State and national soldiery from their experience in the maneuvers is confirmed and emphasized.

DESERTIONS.

The statistics afforded by special reports of desertions in the division for the fiscal year are as follows:

Department of California.....	933
Department of the Columbia.....	595
Total	1,528

These desertions equal 14½ per cent of the average enlisted strength in the Department of California and 14 per cent in the Department of the Columbia. In addition to the foregoing there were 111 desertions from unassigned recruits while en route to the depot of recruits and casuals, Angel Island.

In the cases in which desertions from any organization seemed excessive and persistent the usual letters were written to commanding officers directing careful investigation and report of the circumstances and application of such methods as would tend to remedy the fault. These reports in all cases have indicated that no material defects in administration existed, and the causes assigned are generally as indeterminate as in past years, when the cause of each desertion was made a matter of special investigation.

The total desertions for the last year were slightly in excess of those for the year before, which were about 13 per cent in each department.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

Since the last annual report inspections and investigations called for by regulations and special exigencies have been conducted in an efficient and satisfactory manner.

The large amount of coast artillery in this division, requiring much technical knowledge, makes appropriate the assignment to inspection duty of two artillery officers of experience. The present organization of this department is satisfactory and no changes are recommended.

The regular inspections of the artillery districts, posts, cantonments, camps, general hospital, recruiting stations, submarine-mine defense systems, and transports have been completed. Thirteen special investigations were also made.

MONEY ACCOUNTABILITY.

All disbursing officers in the division, and those not therein, but assigned for inspection, have been inspected up to date, with the exception of acting paymasters in Alaska—in all, 250 accounts.

INVENTORY AND INSPECTION REPORTS.

Two hundred and sixty-six lots of property for condemnation were submitted to and acted upon by the inspecting officers of the division.

THE ORGANIZED MILITIA.

Under the requirements of paragraph 189, Army Regulations, inspections of the organized militia within the division were made as follows:

California, by Maj. Thomas Wilhelm, U. S. Army, retired; Oregon, by Col. James Jackson, U. S. Army, retired; Washington, by Capt. John Kinzie, U. S. Army, retired; Idaho, by Capt. Daniel L. Tate, Third Cavalry; Nevada, by Capt. Frank L. Winn, Twelfth Infantry, aid-de-camp; Territory of Hawaii, by Lieut. Col. John McClellan, Artillery Corps.

Reports of the foregoing militia inspections were, in each case, seasonably submitted to the War Department.

SMALL-ARMS TARGET PRACTICE.

The reports of small-arms firing for the year 1904 were consolidated and submitted by the inspector of small-arms practice at the close of the calendar year. No reports for the current year have yet been received, but the information at hand indicates that the greatest care has been exercised in instructing the men in this important duty throughout the division, and that marked improvement is manifest in many organizations.

RIFLE RANGES.

The reconstruction of the department rifle range near Point Bonita, Cal., has been carried on principally by prison labor. The grading of the site involved the removal of 30,000 cubic yards of earth and rock, all of which has not been completed. The main pit, 312 feet long, contains 12 targets, and is substantially built, with concrete retaining walls and floor. Four long-range targets have been placed in a separate pit of substantial wooden construction.

The protected range constructed at the Presidio of San Francisco, Cal., has given general satisfaction. It has been made the subject of special reports.

Money has been allotted for the improvement of the range at the Presidio of Monterey, Cal.

The range at Vancouver Barracks, Wash., has been condemned as unsafe for skirmish firing. The Government owns no site suitable for such range. There is a tract of land within 12 miles of this station in every way suitable for a range, the purchase of which is being considered.

No range facilities have yet been provided for Fort Lawton, Wash. Attention is invited to plans for a complete range for this post, forwarded to the War Department January 30, 1905. [2048, Pac. Div.]

The post of Fort Walla Walla, Wash., has not a satisfactory range, and it appears difficult to secure one within a reasonable distance. If to be permanently maintained as a garrisoned station, the question of securing a suitable range will continue to receive consideration.

Detailed descriptions of the ranges of all posts in the division garrisoned by infantry and cavalry, except those in Alaska, with maps, are on file at these headquarters.

TELEPHONES.

Suitable telephone service has been established at all the principal ranges by the Signal Corps.

COMPETITIONS.

The division competitions for 1904 were held at the Presidio of Monterey, Cal. They are being conducted at the same place this year. Satisfactory interest is displayed.

The large proportion of team places secured by officers participating as competitors suggests the propriety of some arrangement whereby enlisted men will not be deprived of medals fairly won in competition with other enlisted men, all of whom should have had equal facilities for practice. Enlisted men feel that officers who devote themselves to the use of the rifle in practice for competitions have many advantages over them in preliminary training.

While it may be desirable that officers should to some extent come in competition with the enlisted men in marksmanship, it is believed that this is sufficiently developed in the record practice of the companies.

TARGET SEASON.

On account of the favorable conditions for range practice during the winter months in California, it is contemplated that the regular season begin February 1 for troops in the vicinity of San Francisco and the Presidio of Monterey. In these localities the trade winds and fogs prevail during the summer months. Such an arrangement will permit the organizations there located to complete their practice before the competitions begin.

FIGURE OF MERIT.

Attention is called to the following extract from a report on "Small-arms firing regulations," made by the commanding officer, Fort Mason, Cal., August 5, 1904:

It is not believed that the present system of computing the figure of merit of the company gives the true figure of merit, for in computing the figure of merit a marksman with a score of 500 points has the same value as one with 300 points, and so with men of all other classifications, however widely their individual scores may be apart. As a simple means of illustration, take two companies of 65 men each, all marksmen, with an average score of 350 points each in one company and 305 points each in the other: under the present system the figure of merit of the two companies would be identical, whereas, in fact, one company has made 2,925 points more than the other and gets no credit for it in any way whatever; it is, nevertheless, the more valuable company. This fact makes them become less careful after they have reached 300 points to the good, and makes it quite possible and advantageous for one man at skirmish firing to divert his shots to the target of a less fortunate neighbor and bring him into the classification of marksmen, to which he is not justly entitled. In this way his shots add to the figure of merit of his company, while if the total number of points made by the company divided by the number of men shooting expressed the official figure of merit, as it does the true figure of merit, this element of possible unfairness would be greatly eliminated, as the company would get the advantage of the number of hits actually made, no matter what targets were hit, and it could receive no other credit.

CHIEF ENGINEER OFFICER.

In addition to the routine work of his office, the chief engineer officer, under orders from the division commander, examined various tracts of land with a view to securing suitable ground for department or division maneuvers. Detailed reports of his observations and recommendations are on file at the division headquarters.

Map work has progressed satisfactorily in so far as it has been practicable with the present force to extend this work.

The need of having a more accurate knowledge of the northwest section of the United States, due to its rapid development and commercial importance, suggests the necessity of facilities for carrying on in a comprehensive manner the accurate mapping of that region. Such work need not extend over unbroken areas, but only include such as might possibly become the theater of operations. The very rough and mountainous country to the east of and including the Cascade Range would thus be eliminated. The importance of having reliable maps of coast areas is constantly apparent.

ABSENCE OF OFFICERS FROM THEIR COMMANDS.

It has long been recognized in our service that one of the gravest defects of administration lay in the fact that officers, especially in the lower grades, must be detached in such large numbers from their proper commands.

Some of these detached positions have connection with the current and necessary conduct of army affairs proper; while others, as, for instance, service at institutions of learning and duty with organized militia, may, under the law, be performed by retired officers. This, of course, does not exhaust the spheres of active duty to which retired officers may be assigned under the law. It is believed that

it would be conducive to efficiency if officers on the active list were sedulously excluded from all detached service that can be assigned to retired officers and that the latter be placed thereon. If this were done not only would commands be now properly officered and consequently be better soldiers, but there would be less seeming excuse than at present for increasing the number of officers. If retired officers be not so utilized, it appears that we are not using to the full extent all the means legally placed in our hands to insure that the troops are properly officered.

PRESENT CONDITION OF THE RANGE AND POSITION FINDING SYSTEM OF
THE COAST ARTILLERY.

This is not satisfactory, and measures should be taken to render it so. There have been several boards sitting within the limits of the division at various times since 1898 to settle the different questions connected with the range and position finding problem, but, notwithstanding, the matter is not yet settled. The intricacy of the problem involved is admitted, but its solution is rendered more difficult by the seeming fact that those upon whom this burden has been thrown have not been able to definitely determine the questions involved. In its original report the last board that passed upon the subject for the harbor of San Francisco, Cal., proceeded upon principles which were in no inconsiderable degree afterwards decided to be erroneous. In its second and revised report, proceeding under additional instructions emanating from the War Department, this board proposed to cut down, by a very large per cent, both the number of position-finding stations and the expense attending the installation of the system. But the second no more than the first report was unanimous. In this state of facts the division commander, my predecessor, in forwarding the second report, invited attention to this want of unanimity among the members of the board. Since then nothing has been heard at these headquarters regarding the subject. This condition of affairs is unfortunate, and it is recommended that the matter be left no longer than absolutely is necessary in its present undetermined state.

POST AND GARRISON SCHOOLS.

This subject has been given careful study by the General Staff officers on duty at these headquarters.

Paragraph 6, General Orders, No. 115, War Department, 1904, makes it the duty of the division commander, as a feature of his annual report, to make full report, first, of the condition; second, of the progress of the post and garrison schools, with recommendations relative to their improvement.

Pursuant to War Department orders and circulars these schools have been instituted and put into operation under appropriate division orders. Except at two isolated posts an officer of the General Staff at these headquarters inspected them when the school term was well advanced. The result of his observations, together with a minute of his reflections thereon, were embodied in a report, all of which was approved and concurred in by the division commander, and, March 29 last, forwarded to the War Department.

Complying with instructions of the Chief of Staff of the Army, and with division orders, department and post commanders submitted recommendations looking either to the possible improvement of the scheme of instruction, or confirming the sufficiency of the existing one.

On March 29 last a communication was, pursuant to instructions of the Chief of Staff of the Army, forwarded from these headquarters, setting forth fully the views of the division commander regarding the working of the garrison school system, with recommendations for its betterment. Nothing has occurred since to change the opinion therein expressed. It is not, therefore, deemed necessary to elaborate further at this time upon the subject of the garrison school.

From what precedes that character of efforts within the division to give effect to the true intent of General Orders, No. 115, War Department, 1904, will be appreciated.

Coming now to the specific points, first above mentioned, concerning which the division commander is enjoined to pay particular attention in his annual report:

THE CONDITION OF THE POST SCHOOLS.

In the first place, regarding post schools for enlisted men other than for noncommissioned officers, the method of conducting them varies greatly. There are doubtless numerous causes for this. The fundamental ones, on which all others rest, are two: First, diverse opinions as to whether attendance should be voluntary; second, whether the schools are to be conducted, primarily, for the benefit of the lesser or the better educated enlisted men. This involves a question of policy that the War Department only can determine.

Regarding post schools for noncommissioned officers of infantry and cavalry: While these were conducted on the plan prescribed, there exists a grave doubt in the minds of some of the most capable officers whether it would not be preferable to have them instructed in their company or troop rather than in battalion or squadron schools.

As the prescriptions of the battalion scheme for noncommissioned officers of Coast Artillery have not been carried out, but officially supplanted by provisions of General Orders, No. 141, War Department, 1904, they do not demand further notice here.

Progress can not at this time be predicated of the school course for enlisted men, as but one term has been pursued under the existing scheme, which scheme is not developed by General Orders, No. 115, into a progressive course from year to year, like that for officers.

As to recommendations for the betterment of the school system, recurrence only can be made, in so far as garrison schools for officers are concerned, to the report of the division commander of March 29, 1905, before mentioned, the recommendations of which are adhered to; nor has anything occurred since then to cause the recommendations to be amplified. In fact, this branch of the school system is the easiest managed of all. The officers concerned have made a success of it, impelled by evident self-interest.

The post school for noncommissioned officers can be made all that it is possible to make out of it, with the attention commissioned officers are willing to give, by having done in the infantry, cavalry, and Field Artillery what now takes place in the Coast Artillery.

namely, the company officers teach their own men instead of having this done by battalion or squadron. As witnessed in this division, there are two grave objections to battalion noncommissioned officers' schools—first, they remove these important men from the direct supervision and culture of their own officers in this matter; second, the schools are so large, in point of numbers, that proper attention can not be given each man. It is recommended that battalion and squadron noncommissioned officers' schools be abandoned. The curriculum in these schools now is excellent. If the change recommended be made, the fate of each noncommissioned officer, in the matter of instruction, will be determined by those officers who are most interested in him.

It is a fact that as regards instruction of both officers and noncommissioned officers the overcoming of obstacles that have arisen appears to be a matter of no great difficulty. The professional interest and pride of officers and noncommissioned officers solve this problem for them, when those directly in authority over them do their duty.

When, however, attempt is made to devise and practically to carry into effect a successful scheme for scholastic instruction of enlisted men other than noncommissioned officers, great difficulties arise. Attempts at this, under explicit provisions of statute, have been made in our service now for sixty-seven years, and yet to-day the consensus of professional opinion of our most experienced officers is that the result has been and is unsatisfactory.

It is believed that before we can even hope to outline a rational theory on the subject of instructing this class of enlisted men in schoolrooms certain fundamental principles of action must be determined: (1) The object to be attained, (2) the means to attain it, (3) the extent to which instruction shall be carried, (4) the persons who shall be instructed.

The matter of who shall instruct is of great importance, but is not in doubt nor open to controversy, as, it is assumed, these instructors of right should and will be the immediate military superiors of the enlisted men being instructed.

First, as to the object to be attained by instructing in common school branches enlisted men other than noncommissioned officers: When this was first commenced, in compliance with statute, in 1838, there was no educational test for enlistment, and, to a very great extent, the enlisted men were uneducated, even in the rudiments. In the act approved July 7, that year, providing for instruction of enlisted men at a limited number of posts, under supervision of chaplains, nothing was said as to what should be taught. Such provision first appeared in the law of July 28, 1866, sections 27 and 30. The former provided for instruction at all permanent garrisons or camps in the common English branches of education, especially in the history of the United States. The latter provided a chaplain for each colored regiment, who should instruct the enlisted men in the common English branches of education.

The object of this legislation is not in doubt. There was not at this time, nor was there for twenty-eight years afterwards, any statutory educational test for enlistment in the Army. It resulted that the educational standard for enlistment was low, and the statute pro-

posed to remedy the evil by giving the soldiers, especially in the colored regiments, worse off in this respect than the others, a chance to pick up the educational rudiments of the language of the Government. At that time and of necessity to meet the needs of the men effort was limited to the lowest branches—speaking, spelling, reading, and writing.

Those who lived in the eventful days of that statute can not doubt the object of Congress in enjoining in a special manner a study of the history of the United States. A five-campaign war of almost unprecedented magnitude had just determined that such a Government was to be perpetuated. The Congress, impelled by the patriotic feelings of the day and profoundly impressed with the sacrifices of that war, was determined that its soldiers should have opportunity to study the lessons of their country's history, thereby increasing their appreciation of it and their zeal to defend it.

Thus and without change did matters continue until August 1, 1894, when the act was passed establishing an educational test in time of peace as a condition precedent for enlistment in the Army, viz, ability to speak, read, and write the English language.

This legislation has a very important bearing upon the matter now being considered. Since the enactment of this law, or at least after sufficient time had elapsed to give it effect, there should have existed no reason longer to maintain schools for enlisted men in order that they should be grounded in the common branches of education; the statute intends to secure their having this before enlistment. Of course the policy involved in teaching the history of the United States remained unchanged.

In view of what precedes it should be a fact, whether it be so or not, that post schools no longer need be directed to instruct enlisted men in the merest rudiments of an English education.

What, then, in view of the premises, should be the object sought to be attained through the instrumentality of these schools?

The answer to this is believed to be as follows: "Of course the history of the United States remains one subject of study."

Aside from this, it is believed that a progressive course of military instruction, and this alone, should be followed to the entire exclusion of the common school idea. This, after all, will only be giving enlisted men who are not noncommissioned officers the same character of instruction as noncommissioned officers now receive under provisions of paragraph 5, General Orders, No. 115, War Department, 1904, although the curricula for the two classes of enlisted men may be different, either wholly or partially. Instead, then, of the recruit or other enlisted man looking forward to being made a schoolboy, the cheering prospect could be held out that every effort was to be made to teach him, as far as practicable, the interesting and valuable features of the profession of arms. It is not doubted that the result would be to improve both the soldier and the military service.

Second. The object of the enlisted men's school having been determined upon, the means to attain it would be to prescribe a course of military instruction in which the subjects to be taught would be those the pursuit of which would be both interesting and profitable and the instructors be the immediate military superiors of those being taught.

Third. The extent to which instruction should be carried is a subject

for the exercise of great good judgment. The object will be to teach, within the comprehension of the men, that which will interest them, which will be professionally useful to them, and not attempt to teach so much as to weary and disgust them or their instructors by imposing too much on either.

Fourth. As to who should be instructed. This should embrace every man in the organization, except those who are either so vicious or stupid as to make it a waste of time to attempt to teach them in this manner. Also, when any man has completed the course satisfactorily he should, if he so desires, be excused from further attendance; and this should continue until his immediate commander reports, with satisfactory proof, that he is in need of further instruction of this nature.

If, however, it should be deemed advisable to retain the post school for enlisted men other than noncommissioned officers upon the existing common school basis, it is recommended—

First. That it be precisely determined, at once, whether the idea is to conserve as a primary object the scholastic interests of the less or better educated men, and the school system be definitely planned accordingly.

Second. Whether attendance shall be voluntary or not, and that the principle that shall determine attendance be precisely settled, so that this source of doubt be removed.

Very respectfully,

SAMUEL S. SUMNER,
Major-General, Commanding.

THE MILITARY SECRETARY,
War Department.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA,

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA,
San Francisco, Cal., August 26, 1905.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the affairs and administration of the Department of California for the year ending June 30, 1905:

RECORD OF EVENTS.

A table giving the record of events, including changes of stations of troops, is appended hereto, marked "Appendix A." ^a Sailings of transports from San Francisco for Manila with the troops, etc., transported thereon are shown in the table under "Appendix B." ^a The list of arriving transports with troops carried is found under "Appendix C." ^a

From the beginning of the fiscal year covered by this report until October 17, 1904, the department was under the command of Maj. Gen. Arthur MacArthur, U. S. Army, who was on that date relieved by Brig. Gen. Francis Moore, U. S. Army, who on his retirement from active service on April 6, 1905, was in turn relieved by the undersigned.

During the entire year the duties of military secretary of the department have been performed by Maj. S. W. Dunning, Military Secretary's Department, from whose report the following extract is made:

Since the establishment of divisions the work in the department has gradually increased, as reported in my last annual report, about 30 per cent, which ratio has been maintained during the current fiscal year. The work rearranging the old records is nearing completion and may be considered now in first-class condition.

The card system, which was inaugurated in this department January 1, 1904, works satisfactorily and is a marked improvement on the old method of keeping records, but entails increased work.

In addition to the authorized number of civil-service clerks and messengers there are on duty at these headquarters nine enlisted men, seven of whom are detailed as clerks and two as messengers. It is most earnestly hoped that it will be found practicable to increase the number of civil-service clerks on duty here in order that it may not be necessary to depend to so great an extent on the services of enlisted men. The latter have performed their duties in a satisfactory manner, but justice to the organizations to which they belong, as well as to the men themselves, who enlisted to be soldiers and not clerks, requires that the present condition be terminated as soon as possible. In connection with this subject there must be taken into consideration the fact that there exists special conditions in this

^a Not printed.

department, such as the increased labor made necessary by the depot of recruits and casuals on Angel Island, the military prison on Alcatraz Island, the United States General Hospital, and the departure and arrival of troops bound to or from the Philippines.

The duties of chief quartermaster of the department have been performed throughout the entire year by Col. William S. Patten, Quartermaster's Department, who reports that the following works of construction which were in progress July 1, 1904, were all satisfactorily completed:

Alcatraz Island.—Additions and improvements to prison.

Fort Baker.—Tunneling for water.

Benicia Barracks.—Steel water tank and trestle.

Fort Mason.—Frame lavatory, steel tank, and trestle.

Fort McDowell.—Brick hospital.

Presidio of San Francisco.—Addition to wharf and erection of coal shed thereon; construction of road.

Infantry cantonment, Presidio of San Francisco.—Repairs and additions to guardhouse.

Presidio of Monterey.—Gymnasium and post exchange; officers' mess building.

The duties of chief commissary have been performed since September 17, 1904, by Maj. Frank F. Eastman, Subsistence Department, who on the above date relieved Capt. George W. Ruthers, Subsistence Department. No purchases are made by the chief commissary of this department, such being made by the depot commissary in this city, and the only contracts made by him are for fresh meat. No complaints have been received regarding quality of supplies with the exception of a few regarding fresh meat furnished several posts in San Francisco Harbor by a contractor of this city. The remisses of this contractor were of a minor nature and have ceased. With reference to meal tickets issued to men traveling alone or in small detachments the chief commissary reports as follows:

The meal tickets issued to recruits and detached men have proven generally satisfactory, and are usually received by eating houses and in dining cars all over the United States, judging by the tickets received here for payment. Some complaints have been received that such requests were not honored, and, when circumstances as to time, place, and car could be stated, I have taken the matter up with the proper authorities, and, as a result, fewer complaints are being received.

As a rule the price charged by the Southern Pacific Company at eating houses, with few exceptions, is 35 cents for breakfast and supper and 50 cents for dinner. At eating houses other than railroad the price is almost always 50 cents per meal.

Maj. Henry M. Morrow, Judge-Advocate-General's Department, was relieved as judge-advocate of the department on May 13, 1905, by Lieut. Col. George M. Dunn, Judge-Advocate-General's Department.

During the year five commissioned officers were tried in this command, the cases being published in General Orders, No. 151, War Department, 1904, and General Orders, Nos. 38, 42, and 56, Department of California, 1904.

Number of trials of enlisted men.....	379
Number of acquittals.....	34
Number of cases disapproved.....	4
Number of approved convictions.....	341

The convictions of different offenses are as follows:

Seventeenth article of war:	
Losing arms	1
Losing clothing	5
Selling arms	1
Selling clothing	3
Twenty-first article of war: Disobeying superior officer	13
Thirty-second article of war: Absence without leave	77
Thirty-third article of war: Failure to attend drill, roll call, etc.	17
Thirty-eighth article of war: Drunkenness on duty	18
Thirty-ninth article of war:	
Leaving post	6
Sleeping on post	5
Fortieth article of war: Quitting guard	5
Forty-seventh article of war: Desertion	111
Sixtieth article of war: Larceny	2
Sixty-first article of war: Conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentle- man	2
Sixty-second article of war:	
Absence without leave, not chargeable under thirty-second article of war	2
Absence from duty	7
Assault	10
Attempting to reenlist	1
Attempted theft	1
Borrowing suit of clothing and not returning it	1
Breach of arrest	10
Committing nuisance	3
Disobeying commissioned officer (failure and neglect)	3
Disobeying noncommissioned officer	29
Disobeying sentinel	2
Disorderly conduct	14
Disposing of clothing unlawfully	6
Drunkenness	7
Disrespect toward superior officer	4
Drunk and disorderly	8
Escaping from confinement	2
False statement	3
Failing to join regiment as directed	1
Failing to account for sum of money intrusted by comrade	1
Fraudulent enlistment	46
Gambling in quarters	1
Insubordinate conduct toward commissioned officer	2
Insubordinate conduct toward noncommissioned officer	11
Introducing liquor into post or quarters	3
Larceny	24
Neglect of duty	8
Pawning clothing	1
Perjury	1
Removing equipments while on guard	1
Resisting arrest	1
Robbery	2
Soliciting alms in city	2
Violation of post orders	1
Number of approved sentences of dishonorable discharges	204
Number of sentences of dishonorable discharge by reason of five or more previous convictions	33

INFERIOR COURTS.

Number of trials by regimental courts-martial	None.
Number of trials by garrison courts-martial	19
Number of acquittals by garrison courts-martial	5
Number of different men tried by garrison courts-martial	19
Number of trials by summary court	4, 289
Number of acquittals by summary court	122

Number of different men tried by summary court :

1,692 men were tried once.....	1,692
540 men were tried twice.....	1,080
245 men were tried three times.....	735
95 men were tried four times.....	380
52 men were tried five times.....	260
19 men were tried six times.....	114
4 men were tried seven times.....	28

Comparing the number of trials of enlisted men by general courts-martial during the past year with those of former years, the following is the result :

Year.	Number of trials.	Average enlisted strength during year.
1895.....	121	1,373
1896.....	107	1,398
1902.....	294	5,491
1903.....	408	6,242
1904.....	827	6,007
1905.....	879	4,877

The following remarks on the subject of desertion, taken from the annual report of the judge-advocate of the department, are worthy of consideration :

The desertions from the Army at large during the year ending December 31, 1904, were 6,842; for the five years ending December 31, 1904, 27,388. This shows a most serious condition, and, if possible, the causes should be discovered and remedies applied.

The financial loss to the Government, when the amount lost in pay, clothing, and instruction is considered, is very great, but the injury caused by so many desertions to the morale of the service is much greater.

One of the causes is the poor pay received by the enlisted men as compared with the wages he can earn in civil employment. It is not fair to compare his pay with that received by soldiers of the same grade in foreign countries where military service is compulsory. There military service is a duty to be rendered the state, pay or no pay. Comparison may be invited to the lower pay received by the English soldier, as his service is not compulsory. However, while his pay is less than the pay of our soldier, it bears about the same relation to his wage-earning capacity as does the pay of our soldier to his wage-earning capacity. But the English are having more trouble getting good men than we are, and one of the remedies urged by their Parliament is increase of pay.

Desertion is not so common in the English army as in ours, because public opinion in that country condemns the crime and public opinion in America does not.

Our Army is an army of volunteers. If we want to obtain a better class of men to enlist than we are now securing, a better rate of pay is the first inducement that should be offered.

The annual report of Col. J. D. Hall, assistant surgeon-general, chief surgeon of the department, shows that there has been the following number of deaths in the department during the fiscal year covered by this report :

Alcoholism.....	2	Bronchitis.....	1
Typhoid fever.....	2	Miscellaneous.....	6
Pneumonia.....	4		
Accident.....	9	Total.....	24

The following table shows the causes of discharges on surgeon's certificate of disability:

Venereal disease	20	Anchylosis	4
Defective vision	13	Rheumatism	2
Defective hearing	4	Nephritis	1
Defective physique	2	Neurasthenia	4
Epilepsy	1	Disease of genito-urinary system	1
Injury	6	Disease of respiratory organs	1
Heart disease	6	Amputation of limbs	2
Intestinal disease	3		
Mental weakness	3	Total	75

The following table shows the number and character of the dental operations performed by the contract dental surgeons in this department during the year ending June 30, 1905:

Number of cases treated affecting teeth and gums	9,602
Number of cases treated affecting mouth and jaws	152
Number of operations on teeth and gums	5,160
Number of operations on mouth and jaws	11
Number of appliances for fractured jaws	3
Restoration of teeth by filling	1,784
Restoration of teeth by combination fillings	22
Restoration of teeth by bridges	74
Restoration of teeth by crowns	112
Restoration of teeth by artificial dentures	70
Number of persons treated	2,426
Number of sittings	5,572
Number of diseases treated	9,754
Number of operations performed	7,236
Number of teeth affected	5,619
Number of civilians treated	126

The following recommendation made by the chief surgeon of the department is approved:

To correct unusual conditions of sanitation such as are sometimes found to occur on transports in midocean, it is recommended that supplies of such materials as sulphur and formaldehyde be carried in the stores of the Quartermaster Department in sufficient amount for the cleansing and complete sanitation of the ship.

To meet such emergencies as contagious disease occurring during a voyage, it is recommended that only in very extraordinary conditions should a transport be tied up and placed in quarantine for a period of days. A small outbreak of smallpox where the cases can be isolated and the rest of the ship protected by vaccination is not considered sufficient for the detention of a transport on a voyage. Only cholera and yellow fever are considered sufficient emergencies, as a rule, for such detention.

Lieut. Col. William H. Comegys, Deputy Paymaster-General, U. S. Army, has been chief paymaster of the department during the year covered by this report. The following extract from his report shows some of the unusual conditions existing in this department:

This department differs from any other in that it might be properly termed a clearing house for troops en route to and from foreign stations, is frequently called upon to perform rush work, and has promptly met every obligation imposed upon it. No regiment or body of troops returning from the Philippine Islands has left San Francisco for station without payment, unless at desire of regimental or other commander. A special payment of troops returning from the Philippine Islands is made as soon as practicable after arrival, as it is believed they are entitled to receive their pay promptly upon arrival here and previous to departure for new station. Enlisted men on return from foreign service need their money to make purchases, etc., and when they are denied their pay in such cases discontent ensues, especially when their officers draw their pay. As a result these men are forced to borrow money of their officers,

or others, in order to visit places of amusement or for street-car fare from the Presidio of San Francisco to this city, or even for postage stamps. It has been the desire of officers to have the men paid for these and other reasons, and because some men are difficult to manage it does not seem just to deprive all men of pay actually due. It is recommended that pay rolls be made out previous to arrival in order that returning troops may be paid promptly prior to their departure for new station, and to this end commanding officers be directed to send their rolls immediately to the chief paymaster of the department.

The following recommendations of the chief paymaster on the subject of soldiers' deposit books are concurred in:

It is recommended that deposit books be kept with company records instead of in the possession of the soldier, as this would prevent the loss of the book, especially in the case of soldiers en route to and from the Philippines. The army regulation prohibiting "the transfer, pledge, or sale of deposit books," has been of the greatest benefit in the protection of the enlisted men. This regulation is further supplemented by General Orders, No. 52, Department of California, October 8, 1904, which provides for the adequate punishment of such men as shall violate army regulation 1388. A general order from the War Department, similar to that cited, would, in the opinion of this office, be found effective in stopping the illegal transfer of deposit books throughout the entire Army.

The following extract with reference to experimental work in field wireless telegraphy is made from the annual report of Maj. George O. Squier, chief signal officer of the Department:

A small Signal Corps electrical laboratory, which also serves as a storeroom, has been fitted up by authority of the department commander in room No. 233, Phelan Building. This laboratory is used for the testing of electrical instruments of the Signal Corps and also for such experimental work as from time to time has been found possible, without interfering with the regular routine work of the signal corps in this department.

In this connection reference is respectfully made to experiments in field wireless telegraphy which have been conducted in this department with more or less regularity throughout the year. This work has been carried on at practically no expense to the Government and under many difficulties, principally consequent upon the location here being far distant from the scientific centers of activity for such work in this country. Special apparatus, such as is required for this work, is difficult, if not impossible, to obtain in this vicinity, and therefore a considerable amount of the work has been accomplished with homemade apparatus constructed here.

A full report of the preliminary experiments connected with this work was submitted direct to the division commander by his order, as pertaining to the military maneuvers at Camp Atascadero, and was included by him in his official report to the War Department. For the details of this work reference is respectfully made to the report above referred to.

The Chief Signal Officer of the Army states in his letter of April 8, 1905, as follows:

"It is not the policy of the Chief Signal Officer of the Army to conduct experiments at department headquarters, but at the Signal Corps posts."

In accordance with this policy a suitable apparatus for a wireless telegraph transmitting and receiving station was collected at these headquarters and shipped to Benicia Barracks, Cal., and the station established on April 18, 1905. Capt. C. McK. Saltzman, Signal Corps, has conducted some very interesting and valuable experiments in field wireless telegraphy at Benicia Barracks.

It is not considered necessary in this report to enter into the question of the seacoast defenses constituting the artillery district of San Francisco. The condition of these defenses and the armament thereof, as well as the progress made or contemplated in the installation of fire-control systems, searchlights, submarine-mine defenses, and other auxiliaries is, owing to the reports of the artillery inspector of the division and from other data available in the War Department, as well known there as at these headquarters.

The condition of many of the buildings on the Presidio Reservation and the appearance of the post in general is not a credit to the Gov-

ernment of the United States. This does not arise from dereliction on the part of the successive post commanders, but from long years of neglect of one of the most important posts in the United States and one of the show places of the Pacific coast. As is known at the War Department, one single and one double set of officers' quarters, one barrack, and one ordnance storehouse of the new post to be known as Fort Winfield Scott, on the Presidio Reservation, near the batteries, have been completed and occupied for more than a year. Although nothing official has been received on the subject, it is understood that during the coming year a liberal allotment will be made by the War Department for the purpose of continuing this work. It is most earnestly hoped that such is the case, in order that the dilapidated buildings in the Presidio proper, which for nearly half a century have done duty as officers' quarters, may be demolished and replaced by modern structures. It is taken for granted that upon the completion of Fort Winfield Scott part of the post now occupied by the artillery garrison will become an infantry post. One of the greatest drawbacks to the usefulness of the Presidio as an infantry, cavalry, or field artillery post has been the small extent of open and reasonably level ground for drill purposes. The terrain of the greater part of the reservation is exceedingly broken, but along the shores of San Francisco Bay is a considerable area of comparatively level, though swampy, land. A board to consider the advisability of filling in this tract and to prepare estimates for the cost of such work was convened by Maj. Gen. Arthur MacArthur when he commanded this department, and after exhaustive and painstaking investigation made a report which, according to information received from the War Department, will be submitted to the Congress at its coming session. If favorable action is had the value of the Presidio as a military reservation will be greatly enhanced by the availability for drill purposes of a considerable tract of level ground, now practically useless. When the work in question has been completed, the stables, sheds, corrals, etc., now in the margin of the low ground, should be removed, and others located at some other point on the reservation, preferably in what is usually known as "Tennessee Hollow," now occupied by one of the infantry cantonments. Near that part of the reservation is ample room for cavalry and quartermaster stables, but not a sufficient area of level ground for drill purposes.

In connection with this question there should be taken into consideration the advisability of changing to some other station the battalion of Field Artillery now at this post. There is no suitable drill ground for a field artillery battalion on the Presidio Reservation nor in its vicinity. Long marches must be undertaken to find ground suitable for target practice. The ground most used for drills by the three batteries constituting the field artillery battalion in question is that part of the reservation known as the "golf links," but here the ground is so broken and the hillsides so steep and slippery in places that drills at a trot or gallop are fraught with no little peril to the personnel and the horses of the batteries, while the space is so limited that satisfactory drills can not be had. Even the projected filling up of the low land along the bay shore, while it will furnish a quite satisfactory drill ground for a regiment of infantry or a squadron of cavalry, will be altogether inadequate for a battalion of Field Artil-

lery. For the same reasons that apply to the Presidio of San Francisco, there is no post in this department suited for the station of a field artillery battalion.

At Fort McDowell, on Angel Island, California, all of the more important buildings of the post, with the exception of the hospital, are very old, the barracks especially having about reached the limit of their usefulness. The whole post, with its old wooden buildings huddled closely to gether, is a veritable fire trap. There is no apparent reason for the further maintenance of this post, except that the location is a good one for a depot of recruits and casuals, better in fact than the location of the present depot on the opposite side of the island. Fort McDowell is unsuited for an infantry post for the reason that there is no room for drills in extended order, the hill slopes near the post being exceedingly steep and there being practically no level ground in the vicinity. These features, however, would not militate against its use as a depot of recruits and casuals. In any event, modern buildings should be constructed or the post abandoned within a year.

The depot of recruits and casuals, a subpost of Fort McDowell, is located on the opposite or eastern side of Angel Island. The buildings at this post are mere "shacks," with the exception of the hospital, which is a creditable brick building.

In the administration building, a frame structure like all the others, are kept the records of more than 87,000 men who have passed through this depot. The destruction by fire or otherwise of these records would be a calamity, entailing infinite labor and boundless confusion, but the construction of a fireproof building for their housing is not recommended until it is definitely decided that the depot is to remain for some years in its present location.

The regulations promulgated by my predecessors in this command and so energetically carried out by Col. A. C. Markley, Thirteenth Infantry, commanding Fort McDowell, and by the chief paymaster of the department for the protection of discharged soldiers at the depot from the class of unscrupulous "grafters" who have so successfully robbed them in the past are showing excellent results. One of the most potent factors in circumventing these people has been the establishment at the depot by the Southern Pacific and Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railway companies of a joint ticket agency where the men can purchase orders for railway tickets to their homes, which orders are exchanged for tickets at the offices of the railway companies in San Francisco.

The railway companies will honor these orders only if presented by the person to whom sold at the joint agency at the depot, which precaution makes it impossible for a man who might become intoxicated to dispose of his transportation. Baggage is also checked from the island, and express money orders and drafts sold to those who desire them. During the year ending June 30, 1905, orders for railway tickets to the value of \$104,340.35 and money orders and drafts to the value of \$316,919.38 were sold to discharged soldiers at the depot. The great majority of the men now reach their homes with a considerable portion of their savings instead of becoming stranded in San Francisco, as heretofore.

The post of Alcatraz Island has during the year been garrisoned by a battalion of the Thirteenth Infantry. The principal duties at this post have been connected with the administration of the military prison, which is its most important feature.

The following table shows the aggregate number of prisoners in confinement at the end of each month during the past fiscal year:

1904.		1905.	
July	227	January	248
August	223	February	279
September	254	March	281
October	276	April	287
November	264	May	277
December	252	June	287

The finger-print system of identification has been adopted in this prison with the most gratifying results. A large number of the inmates of this prison are now engaged in manufacturing hollow concrete blocks and constructing therefrom a fine four-company barrack building. The following extract from the annual report of Maj. A. R. Paxton, Thirteenth Infantry, commanding the post and prison, is approved:

Prison discipline should have a reformatory effect and our military offenders should be taken back to service whenever their reform may be fairly presumed. If a prisoner serves a sentence at a properly organized military prison sufficiently long to test his power and will to obey the rules and to establish the habit of obedience in him and thus prove his amenability to discipline, I believe that it would be to the interest of humanity and of the military service to omit his dishonorable discharge and let him complete his enlistment. In this matter I refer particularly to prisoners convicted of purely military offenses. I am induced to believe that many desertions result from ignorance. Sometimes a young recruit has received no discipline whatever in his parental bringing up. Military instruction and discipline after enlistment are not infrequently delayed by various exigencies of service. Sometimes months elapse before the recruit joins his regiment and gets proper instruction.

I believe that a good number of our desertions come from these classes deficient in military discipline. After apprehension and confinement and sentence to a prolonged period of exacting prison life, these men for the first time perhaps in their lives now have experience of the meaning and actuality of discipline. Those who bear it manfully and serve their sentence with an excellent record are, in my opinion, prepared to become good soldiers, and they might well be restored to service upon the recommendation of the department commander.

The conditions arising from the unsettled state of affairs in the Hawaiian Islands have been adequately described in reports from the commanding officer of Camp McKinley, Honolulu, which reports have been forwarded to the War Department.

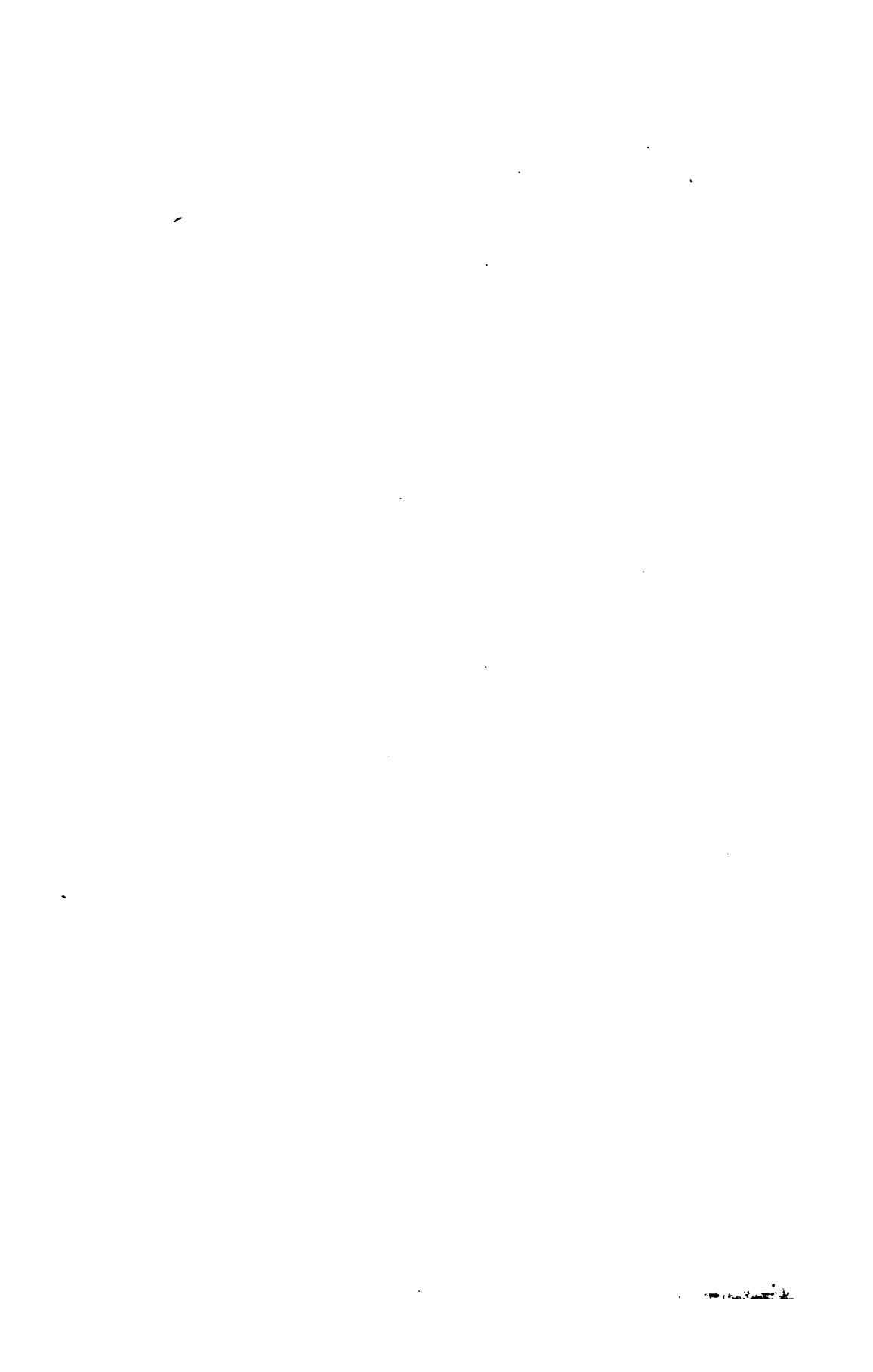
It is not considered necessary in this report to touch upon conditions existing in the four remaining posts in this department, nor to say anything regarding the needs of the Army as a whole.

Very respectfully,

FREDERICK FUNSTON,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army.

THE MILITARY SECRETARY,
War Department.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA.



REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA,
Vancouver Barracks, Wash., September 14, 1905.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit the following report of matters pertaining to this territorial department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1905.

The undersigned assumed command of this department on October 1, 1904, pursuant to paragraph 5, Special Orders, No. 161, War Department, series of 1904.

The strength of the command, present and absent, June 30, 1905, was as follows:

	Cavalry.	Artillery.		Infantry.	Signal Corps.	Hospital Corps.	Staff.	Total.
		Coast.	Field.					
Officers.....	24	47	11	137	4	-----	28	251
Enlisted men.....	277	1,038	234	1,857	166	162	54	3,788
Aggregate.....								4,039

Changes and movements of troops from July 1, 1904, to June 30, 1905.

CHANGES OF STATION.

Station.	Troops.	Remarks.
Fort Canby, Wash.....	Detachment of Thirty-fourth and Ninety-third companies, Coast Artillery; 7 enlisted men.	Left post September 23, 1904, to rejoin station at Fort Stevens, Oreg.
Fort Casey, Wash.....	Eighty-fifth Company, Coast Artillery; 1 officer and 58 enlisted men. One hundred and eighth Company, Coast Artillery; 1 officer and 86 enlisted men. One hundred and eighth Company, Coast Artillery; 1 officer and 82 enlisted men.	Arrived at post July 22, 1904, from Philippine Islands, via San Francisco, Cal. Arrived at post July 22, 1904, from Philippine Islands, via San Francisco, Cal. Left post April 25, 1905, for Fort Worden, Wash.
Fort Flagler, Wash.....	Detachment of Twenty-sixth, Ninety-fourth, and One hundred and sixth Companies, Coast Artillery; 1 officer and 25 enlisted men. Headquarters artillery district of Puget Sound and Sixth band, Artillery Corps; 2 officers and 22 enlisted men.	Returned to post July 7, 1904, from temporary duty at Fort Lawton, Wash. Left post September 3, 1904, for Worden, Wash.
Fort Lawton, Wash.....	Detachment of Twenty-sixth, Ninety-fourth, and One hundred and sixth companies, Coast Artillery; 1 officer and 25 enlisted men. Headquarters, band, and Companies B, C, and D, Tenth Infantry; 9 officers and 185 enlisted men.	Left post July 7, 1904, to rejoin station at Fort Flagler, Wash. Arrived at Maneuver Camp, American Lake, Wash., July 4, 1904, from Department of California. Left Maneuver Camp and arrived at post July 20, 1904.

Changes and movements of troops from July 1, 1904, to June 30, 1905—Cont'd.

CHANGES OF STATION—Continued.

Station.	Troops.	Remarks.
Fort Lawton, Wash. (continued).	Thirtieth Company, Coast Artillery; 2 officers and 101 enlisted men. Companies K and M, Nineteenth Infantry; 8 officers and 107 enlisted men. Company A, Tenth Infantry; 2 officers and 54 enlisted men.	Left post July 22, 1904, for Fort Worden, Wash. Left post July 23, 1904, for Vancouver Barracks, Wash. Arrived at Maneuver Camp, American Lake, Wash., July 4, 1904, from Department of California. Left Maneuver Camp and arrived at post July 23, 1904.
Fort Stevens, Oreg.	Detachment of Thirty-fourth and Ninety-third Companies, Coast Artillery; 7 enlisted men.	Returned to post September 23, 1904, from temporary duty at Fort Canby, Wash.
Vancouver Barracks, Wash.	Thirty-fourth Company, Coast Artillery; 2 officers and 90 enlisted men. Thirty-fourth Company, Coast Artillery; 2 officers and 90 enlisted men. Companies K and M, Nineteenth Infantry; 8 officers and 107 enlisted men. Company I, Nineteenth Infantry; 2 officers and 68 enlisted men. Company L, Nineteenth Infantry; 1 officer and 61 enlisted men. Twenty-sixth Battery, Field Artillery; 2 officers and 108 enlisted men. Eighth Battery, Field Artillery; 4 officers and 111 enlisted men. Seventeenth and Eighteenth Batteries, Field Artillery (mountain); 2 officers and 232 enlisted men. Nineteenth Infantry; 41 officers and 780 enlisted men. Fourteenth Infantry; 32 officers and 409 enlisted men. Company C, Signal Corps; 1 officer and 36 enlisted men.	Returned to post July 23, 1904, from temporary duty at Vancouver Barracks, Wash. Left post July 23, 1904, to rejoin station at Fort Stevens, Oreg. Arrived at post July 23, 1904, from Fort Lawton, Wash. Arrived at post July 25, 1904, from Fort Wright, Wash. Arrived at post July 25, 1904, from temporary duty at Fort Walla Walla, Wash. Left post December 24, 1904, for San Francisco, Cal., en route to the Philippine Islands. Left post January 6, 1905, for Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo. Arrived at post March 20, 1905, from Philippine Islands.
Fort Walla Walla, Wash.	Company L, Nineteenth Infantry; 1 officer and 61 enlisted men. Headquarters, band, and Troops A, B, C, and D, Fourth Cavalry; 20 officers and 305 enlisted men. Headquarters and band, Ninth Cavalry; 4 officers and 35 enlisted men. Troops E, F, G, and H, Ninth Cavalry; 14 officers and 262 enlisted men.	Left post April 1, 1905, en route to the Philippine Islands. Arrived at post April 24, 1905, from Philippine Islands. Arrived at post June 7, 1905 (en route to station in Alaska), from Benicia Barracks, Cal. (Department of California). Left post July 24, 1904, for Vancouver Barracks, Wash.
Fort Worden, Wash.	Thirtieth Company, Coast Artillery; 2 officers and 101 enlisted men. Headquarters of artillery district of Puget Sound and Sixth Band, Artillery Corps; 8 officers and 22 enlisted men. One hundred and eighth Company, Coast Artillery; 1 officer and 32 enlisted men.	Arrived at post October 19, 1904, from Fort Riley, Kans. (Department of the Missouri). Left post October 19, 1904, for Fort Riley, Kans. (Department of the Missouri). Do.
Fort Wright, Wash.	Companies E, F, G, and H, Tenth Infantry; 10 officers and 211 enlisted men. Company I, Nineteenth Infantry; 2 officers and 68 enlisted men.	Arrived at post July 22, 1904, from temporary duty at Fort Lawton, Wash. Arrived at post September 8, 1904, from Fort Flagler, Wash. Arrived at post April 25, 1905, from Fort Casey, Wash.
		Arrived at maneuver camp, American Lake, Wash., July 4, 1904, from Department of California; left maneuver camp July 23, 1904, and arrived at post July 24, 1904. Left post July 24, 1904, for Vancouver Barracks, Wash.

Changes and movements of troops from July 1, 1904, to June 30, 1905—Cont'd.

CHANGES OF STATION—Continued.

Station.	Troops.	Remarks.
Fort Davis, Alaska.....	Company D, Third Infantry; 8 officers and 64 enlisted men.	Arrived at post July 19, 1904, from Department of the Lakes, via San Francisco, Cal.
Fort Egbert, Alaska.....	Company B, Eighth Infantry; 1 officer and 47 enlisted men. Companies G and H, Third Infantry; 7 officers and 181 enlisted men.	Left post July 20, 1904, for Fort Slocum, N. Y. Arrived at post July 18, 1904, from Department of the Lakes, via San Francisco, Cal.
Fort Gibbon, Alaska.....	Company C, Eighth Infantry; 2 officers and 44 enlisted men. Company D, Eighth Infantry; 2 officers and 37 enlisted men. Companies I and K, Third Infantry; 3 officers and 122 enlisted men. Company K, Signal Corps; 2 officers and 83 enlisted men.	Left post July 14, 1904, for Fort Slocum, N. Y. Left post July 18, 1904, for Fort Slocum, N. Y. Arrived at post July 31, 1904, from Department of the Lakes, via San Francisco, Cal. Organized in Department November 5, 1904, by transfers from Company D, Signal Corps, Fort Egbert, Alaska.
Fort Lisicum, Alaska.....	Companies E and F, Third Infantry; 7 officers and 128 enlisted men. Company I, Thirteenth Infantry; 2 officers and 60 enlisted men.	Arrived at post July 12, 1904, from Department of the Lakes, via San Francisco, Cal. Left post July 12, 1904, for Department of California.
Fort St. Michael, Alaska....	Companies L and M, Third Infantry; 7 officers and 127 enlisted men.	Arrived at post July 21, 1904, from Department of the Lakes, via San Francisco, Cal.
Camp Skagway, Alaska.....	Company A, Eighth Infantry; 2 officers and 47 enlisted men. Headquarters, band, and Companies A, B, and C, Third Infantry; 12 officers and 210 enlisted men. Companies I and M, Eighth Infantry; 5 officers and 93 enlisted men. Headquarters, band, and Companies B and C, Third Infantry; 11 officers and 160 enlisted men. Company A, Third Infantry; 8 officers and 64 enlisted men.	Left post July 22, 1904, for Fort Slocum, N. Y. Arrived at camp July 8, 1904, from Department of the Lakes, via San Francisco, Cal. Left camp July 9, 1904, for Fort Niagara, N. Y. Left camp September 30, 1904, for Fort William H. Seward, Alaska (Camp Skagway being abandoned). Left camp October 5, 1904, for Fort William H. Seward, Alaska (Camp Skagway being abandoned).
Fort William H. Seward, Alaska.	Headquarters, band, and Companies B and C, Third Infantry; 11 officers and 160 enlisted men. Company A, Third Infantry; 8 officers and 64 enlisted men.	Arrived at post September 30, 1904, from Camp Skagway, Alaska. Arrived at post October 5, 1904, from Camp Skagway, Alaska.

FIELD SERVICE.

Fort Lawton, Wash.....	Company K, Nineteenth Infantry. Companies A and D, Tenth Infantry. Companies B and C, Tenth Infantry.	Returned to post July 20, 1904, from Maneuver Camp at American Lake, Wash. Distance traveled by rail, 50 miles. Left post April 25, 1905, for target practice at American Lake, Wash.; returned to post June 12, 1905. Distance marched, 144 miles. Left post June 16, 1905, for target practice at American Lake. Distance marched, 72 miles.
Vancouver Barracks, Wash	Eighth Battery, Field Artillery. Twenty-sixth Battery, Field Artillery. Companies A, B, C, and D, Nineteenth Infantry.	Returned to post July 27, 1904, from Maneuver Camp, American Lake, Wash. Distance marched 147 miles. Returned to post July 28, 1904, from Maneuver Camp, American Lake, Wash. Distance marched, 147 miles. Returned to post July 21, 1904, from Maneuver Camp, American Lake, Wash. Distance traveled by rail, 130 miles.

Changes and movements of troops from July 1, 1904, to June 30, 1905—Cont'd.

FIELD SERVICE—Continued.

Station.	Troops.	Remarks.
Vancouver Barracks, Wash. (continued).	Companies E, F, G, and H, Nineteenth Infantry.	Returned to post July 28, 1904, from Maneuver Camp, American Lake, Wash. Distance traveled by rail, 130 miles.
	Companies A, B, C, and D, Fourteenth Infantry.	Left post June 20, 1905, for target practice at La Camas Creek, Wash. Distance marched, 11 miles.
Fort Walla Walla, Wash. . .	Band and Troops E, F, G, and H, Ninth Cavalry.	Returned to post July 23, 1904, from Maneuver Camp, American Lake, Wash. Distance traveled by rail, 350 miles.
	Troops A and C, Fourth Cavalry.	Left post April 15, 1905, on practice march to Kelly's ranch, on the North Fork of the Walla Walla River, returned to post Apr. 16, 1905. Distance marched, 42 miles.
	Band and Troops B and D, Fourth Cavalry.	Left post May 27, 1905, for duty in connection with the opening ceremonies of the Lewis and Clark Exposition in Portland, Oreg.; returned to post June 5, 1905. Distance traveled by rail, 490 miles.
Exposition Grounds, Portland, Oreg.	Companies I and K, Tenth Infantry.	Arrived at exposition grounds, Portland, Oreg., from Presidio of San Francisco, Cal. (Department of California), May 19, 1905, for temporary duty.

PARTICIPATION OF TROOPS IN CEREMONIES.

Troops B and D and band, Fourth Cavalry, the Fourteenth Infantry, and the Eighteenth Battery, Field Artillery (mountain), participated in the opening ceremonies of the Lewis and Clark Exposition, Portland, Oreg., on June 1, 1905, under Col. E. Z. Steever, Fourth Cavalry, as grand marshal.

All the arrangements and details for the parade, including the movement of Regulars, National Guard of Oregon, and civilian delegations, were worked out by Colonel Steever and most successfully carried out.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS.

EXAMINATIONS FOR PROMOTION.

The following recommendations on subjects of general interest to the service are respectfully made for the consideration of the War Department:

It is recommended that all colonels and lieutenant-colonels of the line, before being commissioned and assigned to regiments, be examined as to their physical, mental, and moral condition, and especially as to their temperamental fitness to command a personnel consisting, on a war footing, of 1,500 or more officers and men.

It is difficult to exaggerate the importance of the personality of a regimental commander. He is the foundation upon which rests the discipline of the entire regiment. He should mold the manners and morals of the 50 officers of his command, and through them set a standard for the entire enlisted personnel thereof. To effect this he

must not be only physically fit and technically qualified, he must also possess the stability of character and mental stamina necessary to command the respect of his subordinates and the confidence of his superiors.

Whether inherent or due to progressing senility, habitual vacillation, petulance, captiousness, and like evidence of mental deterioration in a regimental commander are incompatible with his efficiency as such, and should constitute an effective bar to the exercise of regimental command and ground for withholding further promotion, or retirement, according to the degree of disqualification.

COMPULSORY RETIREMENT.

With a view of insuring a steady flow of promotion in the line of the Army, I recommend the enactment of legislation providing for a fixed minimum number of vacancies for commissions each year, to exceed in number the class of Military Academy graduates, plus a fixed number per annum of promotions from the ranks, by an amount that shall within a limited number of years eliminate all captains of 40 or more years of age from the line of the Army, these vacancies to be produced by casualties incident to the service, retirements by the existing age limit, by voluntary retirements under suitable restrictions, and by compulsory retirement of selected officers.

When by such stimulation of promotion no captains of 40 years of age remain in the line of the Army, the excess of vacancies over the requirements of the Military Academy graduating class, plus the fixed number of promotions from the ranks, should be so regulated by means of the compulsory retirements that no officer should arrive at the age of 40 while holding a captain's commission.

This would involve revision of the age limit for graduates and enlisted men promoted from the ranks, but I am convinced that this step is necessitated by the physical demands upon all company officers in active service, and in particular the company commanders, upon whom fall responsibilities and duties that tax the mental and physical vigor of a man in the prime of life. An army whose captains have become too old for their duties and rank labors under a heavy handicap, which may be overlooked in peace, but not in time of war.

The maximum age at which second lieutenants are now commissioned is entirely too old. When they begin their commissioned career at 30 it is not possible for them to reach the upper grades with any reasonable expectation of being able to discharge their duties with vigor and efficiency.

HEATING AND LIGHTING OFFICERS' QUARTERS.

I recommend that public buildings used as officers' quarters be heated and lighted by the Quartermaster's Department without expense to the occupants, as is now done with other public buildings. The cost of heating and lighting such buildings now imposed upon officers operates to the disadvantage of those serving in latitudes where the days are short, the temperature low for the greater part of the year, and the cost of fuel great; and augments the undesirability of stations naturally lacking most of the economic conveniences of stations more fortunately situated.

RECOGNITION OF OFFICERS' MESSSES.

Consideration of some provision for the establishment and maintenance of a system of officers' messes is recommended as contributing directly to the efficiency of troops in war.

It is a sound and well-recognized principle that to secure best results from troops they must be well fed. To this end painstaking research and unstinted expense have been lavished; the most nutritious food stuffs known to science have been combined in the ration with components that supply the necessary variety of diet; cooks for the enlisted men are given increased pay in the service, and a school for their especial instruction in the handling of the army ration is established.

This is excellent, as far as it goes, but it does not go far enough; consistency would require that the physical condition of the officers who march and fight with the men, and are charged with further duties and responsibilities fatiguing to body and mind, should be at least as carefully considered as that of the men. At present officers in the field must provide for themselves as circumstances may dictate; in other words, their messing arrangements are left to chance. Under these circumstances the officer either boards with his troop or company or organizes an officers' mess. If the former, he usurps the time of the cooks, who should be attending to their proper work of cooking for the organization. He also consumes a ration—and generally more—for which he pays more or less into the organization fund. This practice is frequently the cause of dissatisfaction among the men, is bad from a disciplinary point of view, and bad in principle. As to the latter alternative, the great majority of officers can not afford the luxury of individual messes, or messes composed of two or three officers that may be on duty with a troop or company, and a multiplicity of messes would in any event be objectionable as involving increased transportation, an undesirable proportion of camp retainers (or of enlisted men detailed away from their proper duties), and consequent impairment of mobility and military effectiveness. On the other hand, if a battalion officers' mess be organized on a campaign through a country where reliable and competent cooks are not to be hired, which is very generally the case, recourse is necessarily had to the enlisted cooks in the battalion. Some organization is deprived of its best cook, and the results of the praiseworthy efforts hereinbefore mentioned are largely nullified in that particular troop or company. Several other men are perhaps detailed from their proper duties to work about the mess, receiving a few dollars extra pay therefor, and the battalion efficiency is proportionately reduced.

It is believed that the establishment of a permanent system of officers' messes on a battalion basis, by enlisting the extra men to provide for two competent cooks for the officers' mess of each battalion and squadron of line troops, would reduce transportation in the field, replace an undesirable element of camp retainers by soldiers accustomed to military discipline, obviate the using of company cooks by officers, and effect a material increase in the efficiency of the battalion.

The battalion cooks should be given a sergeant-major's pay, assimilated to a battalion noncommissioned staff officer in privileges and

allowances, and promoted from first cooks of companies or troops, thus affording an incentive to company cooks to attain and maintain the skill upon which promotion would depend.

It is obvious that this system is not one to be initiated for field service only; it should be permanent.

MOUNTS FOR OFFICERS.

It is recommended the Quartermaster's Department furnish horses for the authorized mounted officers of infantry and the necessary number of orderlies for transmitting orders and messages, as a part of the permanent transportation of each regiment.

The method of requiring officers to furnish their own horses will not work under present conditions; for the reason that the adjutants, commissaries, and quartermasters are detailed for short periods, at best, and are frequently changed before the expiration of the full term; and, moreover, because the Government does not transport horses on change of station to foreign service. It is therefore in the interest of the service that the Government furnish horses for the necessary mounted officers and orderlies in order not to diminish and endanger the efficiency of infantry regiments.

Now that the war strength of infantry companies is fixed by field-service regulations at 128 men, the necessity is more than ever evident for mounting all captains of infantry. The most important work of a captain begins after the march is over, on going to camp, or when an engagement is commencing. If he is exhausted physically, and probably mentally also, after a long and fatiguing march, he will not be in condition to render such efficient service as if he had been mounted during the march. It is therefore urgently recommended that the Government furnish mounts for company commanders of infantry.

POST EXCHANGES.

After a trial covering more than five years of the practical working of the anticanteen law, it becomes more and more evident that it is a great mistake so far as the health, morality, and discipline of the soldier are concerned. The arguments for and against the anticanteen law are too well known to require repetition in this report. Suffice it to say now that it is not extravagant to state that 99 per cent of the officers and soldiers of the Army are in favor of its abolition and a return of the old system of allowing the sale of beer and light wines in army canteens.

This is a most unusual and interesting question, for in it we find the union of the two most antagonistic elements in American society working hand in hand against the best interests of the soldier. In the first place, we have the great temperance society, whose general influence for good and noble work can not be too highly commended, but who, in this particular case, with best possible intentions, are making a serious mistake; and joined with them in the agitation against the army canteen are the producers of whisky and their creatures, the saloon keepers, who make a livelihood by the sale of alcoholic drinks, often of the most unwholesome and villainous character. The whisky guild argues quite correctly that if the soldier is prevented from getting beer and light wines in the canteen, he will be

virtually forced to patronize the saloons and doggeries, which under this system have sprung up like mushrooms at the very gates of all army garrisons.

As an example in question, in the town of Vancouver, with a population of about 4,000, there are 22 saloons, all situated as near the garrison as practicable.

Some of them, in addition to selling a poor quality of whisky, also furnish facilities for gambling and prostitution. To these immoral dens of infamy the canteen law is a big dividend-paying charter, securing them in power to degrade, demoralize, and rob the American soldier.

For these reasons the abolition of the anticanteen law and the return to the former system of allowing the sale, under proper military restrictions, of beer and light wines is earnestly recommended.

RECOMMENDATIONS PERTAINING TO DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

The transfer of all officers of the Inspector-General's Department to Division Headquarters in San Francisco has not worked well for this department. The distance to San Francisco is so great and the territorial limits of this department so vast that it is very difficult to carry out the provisions of regulations in regard to inspections.

It is therefore recommended that one inspector be stationed at these headquarters and that the division commander grant general authority for the reference of the ordinary questions of inspections direct, thus avoiding long delays and the necessity for the appointment of special inspectors who are frequently not familiar with the methods and policy of the Inspector-General's Department.

TARGET RANGES.

The infantry garrison at Vancouver Barracks, Wash., has held its target practice for long range, collective, and skirmish firing on a rented range on La Camas Creek, about 12 miles from its post. This was caused by the fact that the range on the reservation at Vancouver has been condemned by a board of officers as dangerous, on account of the increased range of modern small arms and the presence of a constantly growing population in the immediate vicinity of the post.

The range at La Camas Creek was also used by the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Field Batteries (mountain).

The garrison at Fort Lawton did all target practice beyond 300 yards on a rented range near American Lake, Washington. The same range was rented last year, and is one of the best sites for the purpose in the department.

On account of the uneven ground and dense growth of timber on the reservation at Fort Lawton, it will be difficult and very expensive to construct an adequate range at that post.

It is recommended that both the ranges at La Camas Creek and American Lake be purchased as soon as possible. The longer it is put off the more difficult and expensive will the purchase become, as land is rapidly increasing in value in this vicinity.

Both of these questions will be made the subjects of separate communications, which it is hoped may receive the approval of the War Department before the next session of Congress.

ALASKAN POSTS.

As a result of my late inspection of the posts in Alaska, I have recommended—

That the reservation at Fort St. Michael be reduced to what is necessary for purely military purposes and that the remainder be transferred to civil authority; and that Fort Davis, near Nome, be abandoned, and the company now garrisoning it be transferred to Fort William H. Seward.

The law forbidding the payment of extra-duty pay to soldiers in Alaska is believed to be in violation of the principle applied at all stations in the States that extra labor by soldiers is worthy of extra compensation. Extra-duty pay is apparently forbidden in Alaska because all soldiers serving there receive 20 per cent additional pay, which in ordinary cases amounts to about \$3, while the average extra-duty pay is \$15. So the one can not in any sense be considered as an equivalent for the other. The 20 per cent is given to all soldiers alike, without regard to the nature of their individual duties, and is only a fair compensation for service under hard conditions in a rigorous climate. When, in addition to the general conditions of existence, extra labor is required, the justice of extra compensation is self-evident.

An unusual amount of extra duty is necessary in Alaska, especially along the long stretches of telegraph lines. The soldiers of the Signal Corps receive higher pay than the men of the line. When they serve side by side and do the same work, this inequality in pay necessarily results in a feeling of injustice and discontent.

It is therefore recommended that the necessary legislation be obtained for allowing extra-duty pay to soldiers in Alaska when performing the same classes of labor for which it is paid in the States.

THE SIGNAL CORPS.

ALASKAN CABLE AND TELEGRAPH.

Three thousand seven hundred and thirty-nine miles of cable, land lines, and wireless-telegraph span comprise the system of telegraphic communication between Alaskan points and Puget Sound, constructed, operated, and maintained by the Signal Corps of the Army, with the assistance of the regiment of infantry stationed throughout Alaska. Of this mileage a total of 2,126 miles was constructed since July 1, 1904. The lengths, and dates when completed, of the trunk cable, land line and branches, are as follows:

	Miles.
Seattle-Sitka cable, August 28, 1904.....	1,037
Sitka-Valdez cable, October 6, 1904.....	601
Sitka-Skagway cable (branch).....	413
Forts Lawton-Worden cable (branch), February 16, 1905.....	42
Fort Lawton cable loop, February 16, 1905.....	3
Valdez-Liscum cable (branch), May 14, 1905.....	4
Valdez-Seward cable (branch), August 3, 1905.....	200
	<hr/> 2,300

	Miles.
Valdez-Liscum land wire (branch)-----	8
Valdez-St. Michael land wire-----	1, 170
North Fork-Boundary land wire (branch)-----	80
Baker-Rampart land wire (branch)-----	50
Safety Harbor-Nome land wire-----	24
	<hr/> 1, 332
St. Michael-Safety Harbor wireless, August 9, 1904-----	107
Total cable, land lines, and wireless-----	<hr/> 3, 739

To these may be added the cable lines used for the coast defenses, viz:

	Miles.
Forts Worden-Casey, November 1, distance 4.3 miles (10 conductor)-----	43
Forts Worden-Flagler, November 3, distance 4.5 miles (10 conductor)-----	45
Forts Casey-Flagler, November 5, 4.4 miles (10 conductor)-----	44
Forts Stevens-Columbia, distance 2.75 miles (3 conductor)-----	8. 3
	<hr/> 140. 3
Total coast-defense lines-----	

Post telephone and temporary fire control land lines are not included in the foregoing summary.

CABLE MAINTENANCE.

The difficulties inseparable from the maintenance of the cable line are many and serious, as will be seen from the following extract from the report of the Chief Signal Officer of the department:

Cable interruptions through various causes are invariably to be anticipated, therefore suitable provisional means for quick transport to the point of trouble, carrying the necessary force, repair material, machinery, and grapnels to raise the cable to the surface from the deep-sea floor upon which it lies, must always be in readiness. This is especially true from the fact that these cables were laid for a great part in the deep sea outside and around the coast of a foreign power, upon a practically unsurveyed sea bottom. It has become a known fact that the gradients of the ocean bed upon which this cable is laid, instead of being gradual, as interpolation would indicate, are abrupt.

A case exists in latitude 54° 3' north, longitude 134° 9' west, where a depth of 1,400 fathoms was expected. It was found after the cable had been laid that the depth was only 740 fathoms. The cable thus bends over a submarine ridge nearly 4,000 feet in altitude. Not only this, but in latitude 59° 23' north, longitude 142° 27' west, there was found, on removing a cable fault, a depth of 1,027 fathoms, against 700 fathoms as per chart.

Where this cable does not lie on unsurveyed sea bed or bottom it passes for a great part through so-called "canals," where violent currents are caused by phenomenal tides. These currents are so swift and have such an alteration of direction that they chafe the cable from side to side over the edges of submarine rocks, and being subjected thus to a process of gradual and continuous grinding, the cables can not be expected to last as would be the case in the soft ooze of the deep sea.

Cable interruptions, especially under these circumstances, must be anticipated, and proper measures provided for prompt repair. The cable ship *Burnside* is at present equipped for this purpose, with rendezvous at Seattle. So important has the commercial business become between Seattle and Alaska that any long interruption of the cable becomes almost an industrial catastrophe, hence there is an absolute necessity for this cable ship to be at some calling point between the terminals of the cable on Resurrection Bay and Puget Sound. An example showing the usefulness of having the *Burnside* within calling distance is illustrated by the interruption which occurred last May in Puget Sound. The *Burnside*, then just running into Sitka, proceeded south at once, and the cable was restored to operation within four working days.

Measures for the repair of the present cable system are so important that the *Burnside* must be kept in these waters to insure the maintenance of a line of

information that governmental, industrial, and political interests have come to recognize as an absolute necessity. It might be said that the alternative route of a telegraphic outlet by the Dominion overland telegraph line might obviate the necessity for having this cable continually intact. But such dependence can not be had, because it has been seen in the past that the interruption of the Dominion telegraph is so frequent and for periods of such duration that the all-American cable route must be allowed only the most temporary interruption.

I concur in the opinion of the chief signal officer of the department as to the necessity for the retention of the *Burnside* in Puget Sound and Alaskan waters, and so recommend.

The importance of Dutch Harbor in peace or war as a coaling station and a gateway to Bering Sea amply justifies the extension of the cable line from Resurrection Bay to that point, and the establishment of a wireless telegraph station at Dutch Harbor for communication with vessels sailing the great-circle route to and from the Orient would naturally result in the equipment of all vessels engaged in that trade with wireless instruments, enabling them to make a mid-ocean report, and subserving both military and commercial interests.

The practicability should be considered of wireless communication between St. Michael and Dutch Harbor via intermediate station at Nunivak Island or at some other point near the mouth of Kuskokwim River.

The extension of the cable to Ketchikan from Sitka is also recommended for commercial and military reasons.

LAND LINE MAINTENANCE.

The duties of the infantry troops in Alaska in connection with the maintenance and operation of the telegraph line are so closely allied to those of the Signal Corps that many of the former have acquired a degree of proficiency in signal corps work justifying their transfer from the line to the Signal Corps, upon their own application.

This accounts for the fact that the original details of two infantrymen to one signal corps man at each station were by degrees so changed by this process of absorption that it has been rendered possible for all three men at a station to become signal corps men.

While company commanders naturally view with disfavor the transfer of their best men to the Signal Corps, the situation seems to demand such action in the best interests of the service.

The granting of extra-duty pay to soldiers of the line when detailed on telegraph-line work (elsewhere discussed in this report) offers a probably satisfactory solution of this matter, and I recommend favorable consideration of the same in connection with the expenditure of the line receipts hereinafter mentioned.

Forest fires, floods, falling trees, and various other accidents are responsible for frequent interruptions of the service over the land lines, necessitating repairs that tax the endurance, energies, and resources of officers and men to the utmost. In the winter season such repairs invariably involve hardship and sometimes extreme suffering from cold and storms, resulting in loss of life or limb. Only the vital importance of the line as a means of administration involving the shelter and subsistence of the entire military force in Alaska, its necessity as an adjunct to the maintenance of public order by the civil authorities, and its inestimable importance to the commercial, mining,

and fisheries interests of all Alaska can justify the risking of human life and limb in this work.

Under these circumstances every consideration should be shown the men upon whom the maintenance of the line depends. The telegraph stations in which they remain when not out at work on the line should be comfortable and as cheerful as the gloomy rigor of an arctic winter will permit. The building of such stations, already begun, should be continued as rapidly as possible until completed; the right of way along the line should be cleared of trees that can fall across the wires; the moss and undergrowth should be removed from around the poles to lessen dangers from forest fires; a trail should be cleared along the line to facilitate passage of repair and inspection parties, and the line should be moved to follow roads and railroads (building and projected), upon their completion. The work involved in the necessary improvements and maintenance is enormous, and it is urgently recommended that the revenues from the nonmilitary use of the line, amounting to about \$10,000 per month, be expended upon these improvements for a fixed period, or until completed, under direction of the Secretary of War, as is done from a percentage of the Alaskan tax receipts by the board of road commissioners constituted by act of Congress, published in General Orders, No. 36, current series, War Department.

About each permanent telegraph station in Alaska there should be reserved for Government uses an area of land embracing wood, water, telegraph poles, garden, room for stables, and caches, and at the same time serve to separate the stations from undesirable resorts that may be established in their vicinity.

A most important link in the Alaskan system is the wireless span between St. Michael and Safety Harbor. The stations cost about \$10,000 each with the complete plant, and have maintained a service so remarkably free from interruption that all interests have grown to regard it as indispensable.

The continuity of the service between these points has been made possible by the installation of a double set of engines in one engine room at each station, by means of which in case of one engine breaking down the other can be connected up without sensible interruption of the service.

These two engines should be placed in two separate buildings, to insure the safety of one should the other be disabled by the burning of one engine room. The cost of such a separate building would be approximately \$1,000 at each station, and I recommend that the sum of \$2,000 be set aside for that purpose from the earnings of the line.

As the conditions permit of the establishment of direct telegraphic or telephonic communication between the headquarters of the artillery district of Puget Sound, at Fort Worden, and the subpost of Fort Ward, at comparatively small expense, it is recommended that the connection be made in order to facilitate the transaction of public business. At present Fort Ward can not be reached directly by telegraph from any place, the nearest office being at Port Blakely, too far away for the prompt transmission of messages.

COAST DEFENSES.

MATRIEL.

Inspection of the coast defenses within this department during the months of May and June, 1905, showed fairly satisfactory conditions as to materiel. A temporary system of fire control is being installed, with the approval of the chief of artillery, by the Signal Corps and the Coast Artillery troops, working together. It is hoped that funds will shortly be available for the installation of the approved permanent system of fire control.

I recommend the construction of suitable defenses at Deception Pass (the north end of Whidby Island); a mortar battery and mines or torpedoes or other defense of Discovery Bay, in rear of Fort Worden; the immediate erection of the buildings necessary for a one-company post at Fort Ward, and thereafter the stationing there of a torpedo company for the care of the armament and the expensive submarine-mine material and buildings at Middle Point, recently turned over to the care of the Coast Artillery; the construction of 12-inch gun and mortar batteries at Fort Canby, and the early installation of the wireless telegraph system between artillery district boats and artillery district headquarters or battle commander's stations, with provisions for practice with same incorporated in the provisional drill regulations, Coast Artillery.

PERSONNEL.

Conditions as to personnel are not satisfactory. Complaints of lack of a sufficient number of officers and men to comply with the requirements of orders and regulations for artillery practice are of more or less frequent recurrence. A number of instances are of record in this Department in which companies were excused from target practice because of the large proportion of uninstructed men in the organization, their participation rendering practice unsafe and of no value as a test of the degree of instruction imparted to the trained men.

Upon the unquestioned principle that military bodies must be drilled during peace in the tactics to be used in war, units of artillery should be drilled in the handling of the units of the armament to which they are assigned, as units. Artillery drill regulations and existing orders governing artillery practice are based upon this principle—the authorized strength of artillery companies was carefully considered when these regulations and orders were formulated, and do not require more men for the effective handling of a unit of armament than should be normally available. The remedy lies in the method of supplying recruits to the Coast Artillery. If a company has been allowed to dwindle to 60 per cent of the strength necessary for it to hold practice in conformity with the regulations, it but aggravates conditions to unload a lot of raw recruits upon the company on the eve or in the midst of the practice season. I would recommend the adoption of a system of recruiting coast artillery companies whereby the authorized strength of an organization will at no time be permitted to be diminished more than 10 per

cent, thus preventing the introduction at irregular and ill-timed periods of an unleavened lump of raw material into the company's interior economy for forced digestion; and permitting the normal assimilation of the few that would be regularly received to fill the recurring vacancies.

Monthly reports by district commanders to recruiting depots designated by the War Department, giving the number of expected vacancies in each district for each week for six weeks ahead, is suggested as a method—recruits to be sent to district headquarters weekly, or as needed, for distribution.

At the time of writing this report it is remarked that there are 442 vacancies in the 14 companies of Coast Artillery in this department, or nearly 29 per cent of the authorized strength, and at least two companies have found it necessary to report the conditions for the action of higher authority, under paragraph 75, General Orders, No. 93, current series, War Department.

Conditions as to artillery officers are analogous to those of the enlisted men. There are seldom or never enough officers present to carry out drill and practice in accordance with regulations. I believe that for this reason, and because three company officers are needed to properly instruct a company of 109 men in the technical knowledge pertaining to their duties, no captain or lieutenant of Coast Artillery should be detailed on recruiting or college duty; nor on any duty, except instruction at the artillery school, staff duty, and duty in the Ordnance Department, that will separate him from his company for any length of time.

In conclusion, I desire to commend the manner in which the officers of the department staff and the clerical force at these headquarters have performed their various duties.

Very respectfully,

CONSTANT WILLIAMS,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

THE MILITARY SECRETARY,
War Department.

REPORT PHILIPPINES DIVISION.

REPORT PHILIPPINES DIVISION.

HEADQUARTERS PHILIPPINES DIVISION,
Manila, P. I., August 1, 1905.

SIR: The return of troops of the Philippines Division for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1905, shows as present 13,194 Regulars and 5,181 native scouts, a total of 18,375, and a decrease of 865 during the year, and as absent 167 officers and 320 enlisted men.

DEPARTMENT OF MINDANAO.

Major-General Wood commanding until May 26, 1905; thereafter temporary commanders.

The following is a summary of active events in the division:

Date.	Place.	Troops engaged.
1904.		
July 6.....	Mouth of Silik River, Mindanao.	Forty-ninth Company Philippine Scouts. (Engagement with Moros.)
Aug. —.....	Cotabato Valley.....	Provisional companies formed from each of the regiments Fourteenth Cavalry, Seventeenth, Twenty-second, and Twenty-third Infantry, each with 1 captain and 3 lieutenants, were sent out with native scouts to pursue and, if possible, capture Ali and his followers. This force remained in the field intact until February. In this month the Fourteenth Cavalry and Twenty-third Infantry were withdrawn. The remainder was transferred to Jolo April 23.
Sept. 13.....	Tabayan.....	Detail of Twenty-third Infantry and Forty-ninth Company, Philippine Scouts. (Engagement with Moros.)
Sept. 23.....	Nancesan.....	Detail of Twenty-third Infantry and Forty-ninth Company, Philippine Scouts. (Engagement with Moros.)
Sept. —.....	Near Marahui.....	Companies E and H, Twenty-third Infantry. (Fired on while on practice march.)
Oct. 14.....	Against Sultan of Oato.....	Second Battalion, Twenty-second Infantry; Troop F, Fourteenth Cavalry; provisional company, Twenty-third Infantry, and Seventeenth Battery, Field Artillery.
Nov. 14:.....	30 miles above Fort Pikit.....	Detail, Company H, Twenty-third Infantry. (Punitive expedition.)
Dec. 12-13	Pinud Gata.....	Companies A, K, M, Twenty-third Infantry; Troops B and C, Fourteenth Cavalry; detail, Hospital Corps; detail, Seventeenth Battery, Field Artillery. (Against hostile Moros.)
Dec. 13-29	Rio Grande Valley.....	Companies B and C, Seventeenth Infantry. (Field service.)
Dec. 26	Jolo Island.....	15 officers and 202 enlisted men of Troops I, K, L, M, Fourteenth Cavalry; Company A, Seventeenth Infantry, and Eighteenth Battery, Field Artillery, took the field. (Against Dato Usap.)
Dec. 27	From Marahui.....	Detail of Twenty-second Infantry. (To prevent attack on one sultan by another.)
1905.		
Jan. 7.....	Jolo Island.....	Expedition of Dec. 26 successful; troops returned Jan. 15.
Mar. 7.....	Near Camp Keithley.....	At request of civil governor Companies E, H, I, K, and L, Twenty-second Infantry, and 1 section Twenty-sixth Battery, Field Artillery, sent out against supposed instigator of murder of sentinel.
Mar. 19.....	do.....	Expedition of Mar. 7 cooperated with by Companies B, F, and M, Twenty-second Infantry.

Date.	Place.	Troops engaged.
1905. Apr. 23	To Jolo from Mindanao stations.	Troops A, D, E, G, Fourteenth Cavalry, and Companies A, D, and E, Twenty-second Infantry, and from Cotabato Valley provisional companies, Seventeenth and Twenty-second Infantry. (Against Pala and his band of Moro outlaws.)
May 1-24	Jolo Island, 8 localities	Above force of Apr. 23, also squadron of Fourteenth Cavalry; detail of Company K, Third Battalion, Engineers; 1 section Twenty-eighth Battery, Field Artillery; detail of 50 Philippine Scouts, and detail of 60 Philippine Constabulary. (Pala and his principal supporters were killed, and a force, gathered in a volcanic crater, surrendered, with 42 rifles and much ammunition, to the expeditionary force, assisted by 3 United States naval vessels. Our loss was 11 killed and 24 wounded, including 2 constabulary killed and 8 wounded.)

Numerous instances of attacks on sentinels and small parties on roads and on firing into posts and boats are reported.

The details of the various marches and expeditions are reported in roads and of firing into posts and boats are reported.

the annual report of General Wood, which will follow, it having been delayed by his unavoidable temporary absence in the United States.

DEPARTMENT OF LUZON.

Brigadier-General Randall commanding to June 15, 1905; since then Brigadier-General Edgerly.

The Third Squadron, Second Cavalry, and First Battalion, Seventh Infantry, all under command of Maj. Frederick W. Sibley, Second Cavalry, were ordered to Cavite Province January 26 and 27, 1905, to assist the Philippines Constabulary in the capture or dispersal of bands of ladrones. At the close of the year the work was practically accomplished.

Troop G, Twelfth Cavalry, assisted the constabulary and native police in an engagement with a band of outlaws April 24, 1905.

DEPARTMENT OF THE VISAYAS.

Brigadier-General Carter commanding. Encounters occurred between Pulajanes and United States troops, as follows:

Date.	Place.	Troops engaged.
SAMAR.		
1904. Aug. 21	Near Bulao	1 officer, 40 men, Thirty-fifth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Aug. 23-29	Scouting from Camp Hartshorne to Gandara.	1 officer, 40 men, Thirty-ninth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Sept. 1	Calanagan	Detail of Thirty-seventh Company, Philippine Scouts.
Sept. 5	Near Catubig	Detail of Thirty-ninth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Sept. 6	Near Demaganga	Do.
Sept. 24	do	Do.
Oct. 17	Near Hipapad	Do.
Nov. 10	Oras	Detail of Thirty-eighth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Dec. 1-6	Vicinity of Tarangnan	Detail of Eighteenth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Dec. 4	Near Taft	Detail of Thirty-eighth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Dec. 7	do	Do.
Dec. 10	Near Gumay	Detail of Thirty-ninth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Dec. 12	San Eduardo	Detail of Thirty-eighth Company, Philippine Scouts.

Date.	Place.	Troops engaged.
SAMAR—continued.		
1904.		
Dec. 13-25	Headwaters of Catubig River.	Details of Eighteenth and Thirty-fifth companies, Philippine Scouts.
Dec. 16	Dolores	Detail of Thirty-eighth Company, Philippine Scouts.
1905.		
Jan. 2	Baros	Platoon Thirty-fifth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Jan. 3	Oras	Fifth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Jan. 6, 7	Between Gandara and San Pelayo.	Detail of Thirty-fifth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Jan. 8	On Dolores River.	Detail of Thirty-seventh Company, Philippine Scouts
Jan. 10	do	Do.
Jan. 23	Between Oras and Batayan.	Detail of Fifth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Feb. 1	7 miles outside Oras	Do.
Feb. 2	Between Gandara and San Jose de Buan.	3 officers and 101 men of Eighteenth and Thirty-fifth Companies, Philippine Scouts.
Feb. 3	San Jose de Buan.	Do.
Feb. 18	Maslog	Fifth and Thirty-seventh Companies, Philippine Scouts.
Feb. 28	Caggamotan	Details of Thirty-fifth and First Companies, Philippine Scouts. (Also constabulary.)
Mar. 7-10	Near San Jose de Buan	Eighteenth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Mar. 21	Bongon	Detail of Thirty-ninth Company, Philippine Scouts. (Also constabulary.)
Apr. 21	Sagod	Details of Thirty-ninth Company, Philippine Scouts, and Company C, Twenty-first Infantry.
Apr. 26	In Arragon Valley	Details of Fifth and Thirty-seventh Companies, Philippine Scouts.
May 5	Hapunan	Detail of Company G, Twenty-first Infantry.
May 7	Near San Vicente	Thirty-eighth Company, Philippine Scouts. (Also constabulary.)
May 11-13	While scouting in Jecon-tol Valley.	Detail of Thirty-seventh Company, Philippine Scouts.
Between May 14, 19.	Near Bongon, while on a scout.	Thirty-ninth Company, Philippine Scouts.
May 31	Hitaplan, near Catubig	Details of Company M, Twenty-first Infantry, and Forty-sixth Company, Philippine Scouts.
June 4	15 miles southeast of Catubig and 12 miles south of San Vicente.	Details of Company E, Twenty-first Infantry, and Thirty-eighth Company, Philippine Scouts.
June 8	Sagod, on Catubig River.	Details of Company G, Twenty-first Infantry, and Thirty-ninth Company, Philippine Scouts.
About June 17.	Near Paponton.	Details of Company K, Twenty-first Infantry, and Thirty-fifth Company, Philippine Scouts.

The details of these expeditions, etc., are given in General Carter's annual report.

Though the conditions as to peace of the islands generally are now for all, except Samar, better than at any time since our occupation, still there are good reasons against any reduction in the number of troops in the division. The past year has demonstrated that not only were the garrisons of the Departments of the Visayas and of Mindanao none too great for the duties devolving upon them, but that there was a necessity of increasing them to a slight degree. More than half of the population of the islands is within the limits of the Department of Luzon. To reduce its garrison by even a regiment would but encourage lawless leaders to gather bands around them by cruel intimidation and prey upon communities needing but protection to be peaceful and industrious.

But apart from the purely local matter of supporting the civil government is the one relating to our nation; that the force here is no greater than prudence would dictate for this far eastern frontier, with possible troubles incident to a position so remote from bases either on Atlantic or Pacific coasts of the United States, 13,300 miles from the one, 6,200 from the other.

The disbursements and outstanding liabilities reported for the fiscal year are as follows:

Quartermaster's Department.....	\$5, 643, 874
Subsistence Department (approximate).....	2, 300, 626
Medical Department (approximate).....	60, 916
Pay Department.....	5, 991, 399
Engineer Department.....	88, 381
Ordnance Department.....	60, 580
Signal Department.....	26, 676
Total.....	14, 172, 452

The relations between the Philippine government and the division commander have been of mutual confidence and respect. The military has at all times given ready and quick support to the civil authority.

It would be in the line of greater efficiency, harmony, and economy if the division commander were a member of the Commission, and, in addition to his other duties, performed those of secretary of military affairs. This would put all military forces—army, scouts, and constabulary—under one directing head, and result in more unison of action than has at times happened. It would save money to both the Philippine and United States Governments. It would relieve the former of all the supply and staff officers now employed. It would place all forces nearer the governor-general than has heretofore been the case. The commanding general, being a member of his cabinet, would necessarily be in harmony with the local government and its undertakings. The division commander could then be held responsible for all expenditures made by his order. Under existing conditions this can not in fairness be done. A number of scout companies are doing duty with the civil government, and properly so, but under the "command" of the chief of constabulary. They are assigned to stations which are frequently changed without the knowledge of the division commander, and yet the expenses of all these changes have to be met from army appropriations. Unnecessary expense on account of barracks and quarters has been incurred for scouts doing this duty, which would have been avoided had it not been for the dual authority controlling these troops.

Division commanders should be selected with a view to their special fitness for this duty with the Commission, and should always be *persona grata* to the governor-general.

Many of the recommendations which follow have originated with the officers of the staff departments for the time reported upon and have my approval.

The administration of this division is considered in order of the different staff organizations.

THE GENERAL STAFF.

Two officers of the General Staff are on duty. One was assigned by the War Department as Chief of Staff. It has been found not possible to assign to the other duties commensurate with his rank and ability.

MILITARY SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT.

The officers of the Military Secretary's Department have met all requirements.

At this time there are three officers of this department on duty at these headquarters. Two are all that are required. At the headquarters, Department of Luzon, there are two. One would answer. So that I recommend that two be ordered to the United States, this number being in excess of the needs of the service.

I feel it but proper to remark that "Military Secretary" instead of the time-honored designation of "Adjutant-General," has not met the appreciation of the service. It does violence to the long-standing habits of the Army. The officers immediately concerned are, and will continue to be, adjutants to general officers, or adjutants-general, save possibly the few who are assigned to duty virtually as military secretaries to the Secretary of War. The designation seems to imply a relation between two individuals, one of whom is a civilian, rather than the military relation existing between two officers of the Army. It seems out of place that a secretary should by his sign manual establish the official character of an order given by an army officer. The proper sequence would mean that we should substitute military secretary for that of adjutant of regiments. No other country in the world nor any State of the Union is without an adjutant-general. It was the designation given by Washington, and has continued since.

The field-service regulations published February 1, 1905, provide for adjutants-general on the staffs of army corps, divisions, and brigades. It is recognized that these are all field organizations. But the act of April 23, 1904, provides that the office of adjutant-general once vacant shall not be filled; and that of March 2, 1905, that the designation of assistant adjutant-general shall cease. Hence these regulations provide for a class of officers not now known to the law.

It is recommended that the former designation of the department be resumed, as in every particular the duties of the Military Secretary's Department are by law and regulation those of the former Adjutant-General's Department.

The transfer of the officers who accepted commissions in the Adjutant-General's Department is without precedent in the history of the Army. It is but justice to these that the original designation be restored.

THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

Three officers of the Inspector-General's Department are on duty. During the year they made 2,329 inspections, investigations, and special reports. Stores approximating \$1,071,764 in cost were inspected for condemnation, a little more than half of like inspections the previous year. The cost value of canvas condemned was \$57,862. Damaged khaki clothing was sent to San Francisco for disposition, as follows: Eighty-eight thousand six hundred and sixty-four coats, 63,103 trousers, foot; 46,392 trousers, mounted; 4,096 breeches.

This suggests the advisability of storing the reserve supply in San Francisco and making shipments here every six months.

Six hundred and eighteen horses and mules were condemned, and on account of glanders and surra 274 were killed. The previous year the numbers, respectively, were 1,071 and 571.

Inspections have shown officers' schools conducted in accordance with orders and regulations, a fair state of efficiency in military instruction, a good state of discipline, target practice successfully conducted and with a display of much interest, and increased interest in and very conscientious athletic work in all departments. The small-arms firing record of the cavalry team was surpassed in the Army the previous year by that of the Army team only; that of the infantry team by those only of the Army and Atlantic Division teams of the previous year.

To stimulate the command to increased efficiency the following order was issued:

The many changes in the personnel in progress in this division make the time opportune for directing the attention of the officers and enlisted men of this command to the following requisites for effective and efficient service, each requisite to be of the highest attainable order:

1. Excellency of physique of officers, enlisted men, and animals.
2. Good condition of arms and accouterments of all branches, thorough knowledge of them, and skill in their use.
3. Serviceable condition of means of transportation.
4. Comprehensive knowledge of the country.
5. Like knowledge of inhabitants, their language and customs, and causes of unrest when this impends or appears.
6. Readiness to take the field on short notice.

Department commanders will supplement measures already taken by them by any others which will aid in these requisites becoming general throughout their commands.

The division commander has inspected the greater part of the command, and will complete the inspection and report it later.

While the majority of the officers serving in this division are efficient, evidence exists that boards for examination for promotion are not as thorough as the best interests of the service require. To better meet the requirements the following order has been put in force:

The efficiency of the Army depends upon that of its personnel, and this to a large degree upon the efficiency of its officers. The responsibility of determining whether the junior officers of the Army attain a proper degree of efficiency depends upon the officers who are assigned to the important duty of examining them to determine their fitness for promotion. This examination should determine the physical, moral, and general efficiency and the professional qualifications of an officer. Diplomas are not accepted in lieu of examination as to moral, physical, and general efficiency qualifications. As to moral fitness, existing orders require examining boards to fully satisfy themselves, making careful inquiry in all cases of doubt, and to this end to exhaust available reputable and authentic sources of information. As to his professional qualifications, existing orders require examining boards to determine that the subjects of examination are thoroughly comprehended by the officer examined, and that he is able to make reasonable practical application of what he has learned, and further require the board to be positively satisfied as to the officer's ability to impart instruction in these subjects.

Hereafter all boards for examination of officers for promotion will be selected with a regard to the special fitness of their members for this important duty. Of the members other than the medical officers the senior shall be a field officer known for his high character and good habits, and, when it can be avoided, not more than one officer shall belong to the same regiment as the officer to be examined.

For good and sufficient reasons not more than one officer of the regiment with which the candidate is serving should be called upon to determine the fitness of any officer. The interests of the service, no less than that of the candidate, inspired this action.

There is too frequently evidence that there are officers in the service

not mindful of their financial obligations, and this appears, from the number of complaints, to be a growing evil, one calling for drastic treatment. Officers should understand that to be an officer in our Army is to be a gentleman; that to contract debts that he can not pay is not the act of an officer who can ever have high standing in the service. It should be, as it usually is, the beginning of his end. In the meantime he leaves an unsavory trail that to a greater or less extent reflects on the entire service. Against these offenders regimental commanders should take early and prompt action. The moment an officer begins living beyond his means he should be subjected to rigid discipline. Young officers joining the service should be admonished that for them only the simple life is possible. The moment an officer is possessed with an uncontrollable desire for any other life he, as a duty to himself as well as to his regiment, should separate himself from the service and enter the fields in which the material rewards admit of more luxurious living. Only the rigorous frugal life is possible to those who make the service a life work. At best it is one of sacrifices, and those not able to meet its exactions with cheerfulness and intelligence should seek another calling.

JUDGE-ADVOCATE'S DEPARTMENT.

The special work has consisted of defending the interests of the United States in the courts of the islands, with especial reference to titles to military reservations, and reporting upon claims against the Government growing out of the operations of the Army from the date of occupancy to the present time.

The title to the military reservations will depend greatly upon the decision of the supreme court of these islands in three test cases now before them for consideration, involving various phases of the doctrine of proscription against the state. If the decision of the court is adverse to the contention of the Government, it will be necessary either to make purchases of the land that we occupy at greatly enhanced figures or consolidate the troops into a very few stations.

Just before his relief from duty here Lieut. Col. H. C. Carbaugh, then judge-advocate of the division, completed an important collection and translation of royal decrees relating to the land laws of the Philippine Islands, which will be of service in the future.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

To properly appreciate the operations of the quartermaster's department it is well to bear in mind that there are 116 garrisons (49 more than the posts and subposts of the Atlantic division), distributed over nine islands, occupying the zones of denser population along the seashores. The principal exceptions are the garrisons of the lake regions of Luzon and Mindanao and of the Grande River, in the latter island. This results in the general use of water transportation, except for Camp Stotsenburg and two or three minor posts on a line of railroad, and for Camps Keithley and Vicars and a few minor posts dependent upon wagon transportation. Furthermore, the water-borne freight is landed from vessels directly on wharves in but three cases. At other seacoast stations it must be taken to shore on lighters, in some cases distances of 2 or more miles. The most

northerly station is farther from Manila than is Portland, Me., from New York City; the most distant southerly than Charleston, S. C. There are no lines of commercial vessels regularly following routes of supply or other routes not purely local. At Manila the ocean transports can not come to wharves; hence troops and all inbound freight must be lightered, supplies other than forage and lumber to warehouses at the mouth of the Pasig River, forage and lumber to depot and yard about 4 miles up the river.

The disbursements and unpaid liabilities of the quartermaster's department for the fiscal year 1905 were less than those for the year 1904 by \$1,081,352, notwithstanding that during 1905 there were expended for construction of the military post McKinley \$450,000 and for post exchanges \$16,051.42, while no expenditures are reported for either of these items during 1904.

The main item of expense is on account of army transportation, as is to be expected considering the number and distribution of posts previously reported and the expense of moving troops and supplies in default of railroads, commercial vessels, and wharves. In this division for 1905 this item, \$3,825,782.98, is, however, \$1,154,891.74 less than for 1904, though it includes about \$245,000 for wharf and roads at Fort McKinley, against \$15,000 spent there for roads in 1904.

REDUCTION OF EXPENSES.

For the next fiscal year reductions already made amount to about \$425,000, which, with the \$1,155,000 reduction reported by the chief quartermaster, gives a total reduction of about \$1,580,000, practically all of which will have been made during the administration of the present division commander.

No estimate is submitted for barracks and quarters, shelter of troops, Philippine Islands. At the end of the fiscal year there was an available balance of about \$400,000, sufficient for all needs at present contemplated.

In the departments of Luzon and Visayas necessary field operations have delayed the contemplated aggregation of troops in large garrisons. Still this object is held steadily in view and has so far been accomplished at Fort McKinley that its present garrison is one company engineers, one squadron cavalry, one battery field artillery, and fourteen companies infantry, while in 1904 it was garrisoned by but three companies of engineers. Its contemplated garrison is two regiments infantry, two squadrons cavalry, one engineer company, and one battery field artillery. The construction of this post by Capt. W. E. Horton, quartermaster's department, has been ably driven toward completion, which so far as buildings, sewers, water supply, and main roads are concerned is expected October 1, 1905. Then, near but not in Manila, 6 miles distant by road or river, a brigade of all arms will be at all times available for field service, with no anxiety as to shelter for families and other impedimenta left behind.

The existence of this large garrison makes it possible to provide the necessary ground for a prison, in which should be segregated the general prisoners in the islands. The improvement and care of the reservation would give employment to many, and the quarries within suggest other possibilities in that line. Two needs of the garrison.

have yet to be met, a garbage cremator and a laundry. Experience has shown that it is not safe from a sanitary standpoint to resort to the native method of laundry work. The size of the garrison justifies a laundry; and the expense of running it could be met by proper charges. It is, therefore, recommended that either an allotment from the existing appropriation for barracks and quarters, Philippine Islands, or a special appropriation be secured for the following at Fort McKinley: For military prison, \$80,000; for garbage crematory, \$6,000; for steam laundry, \$10,000.

Three corrals are now practically consolidated in one at the southern limits of the city, this work, so far as the two main corrals are concerned, having been initiated by General Wade in September, 1904. A reduction in the expense of administration has already appeared, but the expense of land transportation is out of proportion to the present force because of an inheritance of animals and wagons from the time of general active hostilities. Measures to materially reduce their number within the limits of the needs of the public interests will be instituted at an early day.

The hospital at Corregidor Island is being vacated, as no longer needed, patients being transferred to the division hospital.

Building construction of military posts is of a type adapted to the country. Its special points of attack are the roof, by heat and moisture; the supports, by ants. Galvanized metal must replace any other special roofing fabric so far supplied, and supports must be regularly inspected for damage done, and liberal use made of carbolineum. For preservation as well as for appearance's sake, interior woodwork should be oiled.

Considerable expense has been incurred for rentals. Some reduction may be expected by reason of the abandonment of small posts, except in Samar where these have been temporarily increased in number. Approximately \$25,000 were paid for rentals at scout stations in the Department of Luzon alone, due to a great extent to the frequent necessary movements of companies on duty with the civil government. In many cases companies would reach stations before orders announcing changes of stations had reached the chief quartermaster of the department. Provision not having been made in advance for the reception of the companies, exorbitant demands for rent have often been made.

With few exceptions, posts are supplied with water from running streams, which is distilled for cooking and drinking purposes. Posts supplied with distilling apparatus are also, as a rule, provided with ice plants.

The net cost of operating the ice plant at Camp Overton, Mindanao, was \$1,592, making the cost of ice issued to hospitals, officers, troops, workshops, etc., about 24 cents per 100 pounds. Free issues were not made to officers.

The example shows the maintenance of ice plants to be not expensive in comparison with benefits and comforts resulting to the troops, especially the sick.

Previous reference has been made to a large amount of damaged clothing returned to the States. This is of old issue and pattern and fades when laundered. As uniform it is worthless and its sale to the

Army, even at reduced rates, save for use as overalls should not be allowed.

The corrugated sweat bands in campaign hats furnished for issue continue to prove unsatisfactory. The manner of packing these hats causes a black band to be stained upon them, either from the cardboard placed between crown and sweat band of those packed one in another or from adhesive mixture under the sweat band soaking through the interposed cardboard. It is believed that the loss occasioned the Government from this cause is sufficient to justify an investigation and remedy.

Practically all the nankeen underwear which was in stock at the depot has been disposed of by sale during the year. The records of this office show that the Medical Department considers nankeen clothing dangerous to health when worn in the Tropics. When damp with perspiration, evaporation is so rapid that the body becomes chilled, thereby predisposing the wearer to dysentery and other bowel troubles.

From practical experience nainsook underwear appears to be the most suitable for use in the Philippines, both from a standpoint of comfort and of service; it is light, cool, and possesses excellent wearing qualities. It is recommended that this kind of underwear be continued for use in the Philippines.

The present tan shoe, while an excellent shoe for garrison duty, is too light, particularly the upper, for field service, and will not last longer than one month when worn in the field.

Numerous complaints have been received as to the different shades of the canvas leggings issued to enlisted men and the quality of laces furnished with them. Woolen puttees for foot troops, similar to those worn by the constabulary, when worn with a bellows-tongued shoe, keep out much more effectively the mud and sand, are easily cleaned, have no laces or straps, and it is believed if they could be substituted for the present canvas legging would prove satisfactory.

The present mosquito bar contains considerable starch, and after being washed becomes flimsy and unserviceable. As mosquito bars are required in the Philippines during the entire year, and their use practically compulsory, it is recommended that they be made of stronger material and furnished unstarched; also that the hangers attached be secured to them in a manner more lasting than now provided.

The clothing bags and telescopes or valises issued to troops remain, under present regulations, on the quartermaster's return of property and are transferred as other quartermaster's supplies, when an enlisted man changes station. The clerical work involved in these transactions is very large, necessitating the making out of memorandum receipts, certificates of transfer, and invoices, and often causes confusion and delay to the accounting officer in obtaining receipts.

It is recommended that these articles be made a part of the clothing and equipage issued to enlisted men, and included in their allowance. If this is done the clothing bags and valises should be legibly stenciled with the name of the owner, follow him through the service, and afford him means of transporting his effects when leaving the service.

Forage received from the States during the year has proven satisfactory, with the exception of the timothy hay and that baled by the Lowry process. The former is of inferior quality and full of dust, and animals will only eat the upper parts of the stem and blades; that baled by the Lowry process appears to have passed through a sweat during baling. Many bales are found black on the inside and musty in odor; the blades are crushed into chaff, which the animals will not eat.

The depot quartermaster on the Pacific coast should, as a matter of accommodation—it is not claimed as a right—be authorized to fill emergency orders on request from these headquarters from allotments of the division without the delay and additional routine of references in each case to Washington.

Contracts have been entered into for delivery of about 60,000 tons of Australian coal at six ports in the islands, for \$4.46 per ton; and of not exceeding 72,000 tons of Japanese coal to transports at Nagasaki, for \$4.40 per ton; the latter is an increase of \$1.40 per ton over last year's price. In this connection a few notes as to coal deposits of the Philippines are of interest and value.

The first discoveries of coal in the Philippines date back to the year 1827 and were made in the island of Cebu. Since that date to the present time locations of new deposits may be said to have been continuous. Following the discoveries on Cebu, after a lapse of time during which no importance was placed on the coal resources of the archipelago, due to the fact that there were no steamships visiting the islands, in 1842 coal was reported from the island of Batan. These two localities, being the first in which coal was discovered, also play the most important part in the later history and developments of the coal measures of the Philippines.

The records of the inspectorate of mines show that under the Spanish régime coal deposits were discovered in the following islands and localities: On the island of Luzon, in the provinces of Cagayan, Abra, Infanta, Rizal, Tayabas, Camarines, Albay, and Sorsogon; islands of Mindoro, Masbate, Samar, Negros, and Mindanao. During the earlier period of the discoveries efforts were made to secure the aid of the Government by means of forcing the use of the Philippine coals upon the navy. Efforts of this kind were rendered abortive, however, through the instrumentality of Spanish officials of the Philippine Islands.

The cause of this may be traced to the illegitimate profits to these officials derived from the continued use of English coal. State aid was, however, rendered in several cases by means of providing transportation facilities from the mines to the sea.

In spite of the numerous coal-mining concessions, the history of this industry has been one of continuous failure, seemingly unwarranted in view of the almost universally favorable reports on the use of the Philippine coals and the analyses furnished by the laboratories. This failure may be said to be due almost entirely to improper methods of exploitation, chiefly exhibited by the way in which the concessionaires expended large amounts in outside workings and accessories before being assured of a production which would warrant the expenditures so made and by the methods employed in mining.

Investigations started in 1901 by order of the Secretary of War,

with a view to obtaining a coal supply in the islands for the use of the Army, and carried on by Lieut. E. H. Markham, of the Corps of Engineers, resulted in 1903 in the War Department ordering a more careful investigation of the Batan coal fields, securing an option on certain claims on the island, and laying off the western half as a military reservation.

The results of these investigations, ably conducted by Lieut. H. L. Wigmore, Corps of Engineers, have been favorable. Bituminous coal in quantity and of excellent quality has been developed. Analyses show it to be superior, as a rule, to Pacific and Alaskan coals and about equal to Japanese and Australian coals.

Tests on the interisland transports show it to be slightly inferior to Japanese coal as regards steaming radius, ton for ton, but superior in every other quality of a steam coal, and have resulted in universally favorable reports from shipmasters regarding its use. It may be laid down so cheaply that its defect of being consumed more rapidly than Japanese or Australian coal is more than overcome.

Since the War Department began its investigation, the civil government, through its mining bureau, has taken up the study of the coal deposits of these islands. The general plan adopted is to investigate in detail the deposits of the various localities where coal has been found and thus obtain data from which the geological conditions under which the coal was formed and from which the relation of the various deposits to each other may be known. Their first investigations were made on the island of Batan, and the results are equally as favorable as those made by the War Department. There seems to be no longer any reason to disbelieve that the near future will see the Philippines not only furnishing its own supply of coal, but competing for the coal trade in the markets of Singapore and Hongkong with the Australian and Japanese coals, which have now practically a monopoly of that important business.

	Horses.			Mules.	Ponies.
	Cavalry.	Artillery.	Draft.		
On hand July 1, 1904	3,631	130	1,906	2,546	68
Disposed of	740	22	387	448	17
On hand July 1, 1905	2,891	117	1,519	2,098	51
In land transportation corral, 15 per cent of which are usually sick			387	219	

Those disposed of include all sold, condemned, transferred, died, strayed, or stolen.

A matter of great concern is the large number of animals in the Manila corral. The local transportation needs are not to be compared with, being very much greater than, those of any headquarters in the States. Manila is the port of entry for all supplies for a force of 18,000 men and 6,700 animals; in it are quartermaster, commissary, and ordnance depots, a division hospital, the main station of the Signal Corps, charged with construction and repair of telegraph and telephone lines, division headquarters, department headquarters, quartermaster repair shops, three military posts, and the many officially enlisted men attached to all of these. Supplies, including

forage and distilled water, must be distributed from depots and distilling plants to transports, individuals, and animals; local transportation furnished for travel on duty. Local needs are diminished slightly only by concentration of troops. But with all efforts to restrict the use of transportation, the care of animals remains, even though the animals themselves must continue, until they are disposed of. The problem is one to which continued attention is being given. Measures have been taken which will result in a reduction of close to \$100,000 in this item of expense next year.

In addition the approval of the War Department will be requested for selling surplus wagons, harness, and animals at appraised values. This may be possible to a considerable extent when the construction of railroads throughout these islands is entered upon.

Certainly the number on hand will be sufficient to meet all requirements of the ensuing year.

One large item of expense for land transportation results from the necessity of maintaining posts in Lake Lanao, in Mindanao. Two posts are maintained—one, Camp Keithley, with a garrison of one regiment of infantry and a battery of field artillery; the other, Camp Vicars, with a garrison of two companies of infantry. Each requires a wagon haul of its supplies a distance of about 20 miles. Camp Vicars may eventually be abandoned.

The annual cost of transportation engaged in supplying these posts is about \$404,000. Estimates of the cost of construction of a railway from Camp Overton to Camp Keithley vary from \$315,000 to \$600,000. Assuming the annual cost of operation at \$50,000, it will be seen that at the outside the cost of construction will be returned to the Government in two years by the saving in wagon transportation.

As a business proposition this railway is a good one for Government needs alone. Incidentally it may serve to develop the lake district. Its construction is strongly recommended.

Electric lighting is used to some extent about Manila offices, depots, and quarters, current costing 20 cents the kilowatt, with reduction proportionate to consumption above a minimum amount.

The base hospital at Iloilo is also lighted by electricity.

Mineral oil will be delivered to storehouses at Manila this year by the Standard Oil Company, of New York, at 12 cents per gallon, against 12.5 cents last year. The contract calls for 300,000 gallons.

The United States Army morgue and bureau of identification has continued in the charge of Chaplain Henry Swift, U. S. Army. The burial corps has visited 106 towns and disinterred 345 bodies. Four hundred and eighteen have been returned to the United States.

The offices of the constructing quartermaster and of the department of works were consolidated October 1, 1904, and now construction and repairs are under one supervision.

Apart from repair of water transportation, labor costing \$51,758 was applied to manufactures and repairs. This item is, of course, small in comparison with the cost of repairs to transports, launches, etc. The total cost of operation, including lumber expenditures, was \$319,839.

The expenditures for labor were less than for the previous year by \$35,971. The lease of the Pasig Iron Works was terminated March

1, 1905, thus terminating a monthly rental of \$1,000. The cooperation of the coast guard and transportation bureau of the insular government in repair of water transportation at 10 per cent over actual cost of labor and material made the termination of the lease possible. About the same time the force of employees was materially reduced and the reduction continues as opportunity offers.

The necessities of the division justify the maintenance of a quartermaster's depot for the use of this division alone, thus making it different from the depots in the States, which supply the needs of more than one division. This difference should and practically does except it from the provisions of army regulation 1011.

The pay roll of the depot for June, 1905, was less than that for June, 1904, by \$3,125. Reduction in the force employed continues and must be continued in the effort to bring expenditures within allotments. The use of a scout company to replace the force of watchmen is contemplated. With a fire boat kept and not allowed to go far from the immediate river front, and a municipal engine company but a few hundred yards from the depot, it has been deemed not imprudent to disband the special engine company heretofore maintained by the quartermaster's department.

In the interisland transport service 5 United States transports, 14 chartered steamers, and 2 chartered schooners were employed. The 16 steamers and schooners were in charter for an average of about seven months each; the transports were repairing three hundred and fifteen days in all, and in addition one was in service as cable ship for one hundred days.

Debiting these vessels with all expense accounts and crediting them at tariff rates for such passengers and freight as were entitled to Government transportation, the net credit balance for this service was \$563,312.

Two steamers under charter for five days each for return to China for annulment of charter were naturally operated at a loss, which amounted to \$1,600. Two chartered steamers were operated at a loss of \$29,834, and two transports at a loss of \$82,128. Large items of repair were in part the cause of the latter; but the main reasons for the loss are that one boat is a cold-storage boat and is credited with tariff rates only on delivered freight, no credit being taken for the cold storage, and the other boat has no freight capacity to speak of. It had been reserved for a dispatch boat, but was ordered by the division commander for freight and passenger service. She has now been put out of commission and reported to the War Department for final disposition.

One transport of the five has been fitted out as a cable-repair ship, a necessary vessel for these islands. This does not incapacitate her for other service when her services as cable ship are not required.

Sixty-three owned launches, including some steam lighters, were operated, at an expense of \$370,720, nearly one-third of this being for repairs. Three launches were bought at a cost of \$39,700. In addition two launches have been chartered for use on coast of Samar in connection with present field operations, at a cost so far of \$9,157. Fully one-half of the launches are stationed about Manila and have moved during the year about 2,500 tons of freight to and from lake,

river, and bay points. Launches in the Department of Mindanao have moved 2,131 tons, and in the Visayas 8,232 tons.

Owned lighterage has cost the Government \$22,531; contract lighterage, \$266,356; of the latter sum \$110,000 was expended for handling coal and for transfers between Pacific transports and commercial vessels. Notwithstanding advanced rates this year for contract lighters, the total expense will be generally reduced the ensuing year, as the number of tons for lake, river, and bay work will be less.

The real relief will be felt when ocean and interisland transports can lie at the wharves now under contract.

Labor connected with the transport service cost \$164,653, about one-fifth of this being for discharging and loading cargo on board vessels. The cost for ten months of the previous year was \$217,830.

Clerical hire for this service throughout the division footed up \$189,475, of which about \$15,000 only was expended in the departments of Mindanao and the Visayas. At the Manila office this item of expense was \$2,091 less for June, 1905, than for July, 1904, and a reduction of \$23,160 has been put into effect for the coming year.

It is realized that a great part of the expense of interisland transportation could be saved were it possible to have it furnished by the business community. The main obstacles to this transfer at present are the absence of cold-storage facilities for fresh meat, so necessary to the health of our troops, and the great disregard for time schedules.

The civil government, with the cooperation of the division commander, is working on a scheme to bring about the inauguration of commercial lines of steamers, and a call for bids looking to this end will be published January 2, 1906, next.

It is hoped that favorable proposals will be received, but this is problematical and can not be determined in advance.

The pernicious habit of disbursing officers allowing clerks to make payments to employees has been arrested by the following instructions of the division commander:

The division commander directs that all payments to employees in the various branches of your office be, as a rule, made by the officers disbursing the funds of those offices.

Should this be impracticable at any time, timely request will be made to these headquarters for the detail of an officer to witness the payments, unless you are able to then assign another to that duty.

In any event no payments will be made to employees without same being witnessed by a commissioned officer.

It is recommended that 10 per cent of the pay of all civil employees in this division be retained to their credit, to be paid them when for any reason their service with the Government terminates. Recent experience shows that many have been so improvident that when reduction of force in the Quartermaster's Department was necessary the men, although having been in employ for several years, were without means to reach their former homes. To prevent a recurrence of such conditions this recommendation is made.

Until recently there have been no savings banks in this city, but now that there are, this class of employees has not taken advantage of them to lay by any savings to meet future needs. In the interest of the men, as well as of this community, the course recommended should be adopted.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

Department base hospitals are maintained at Iloilo and Zamboanga. One hundred and sixty-seven medical officers are stationed in the division. Deducting officers sick and on leave, and dental surgeons, there remain 144 surgeons, regular and contract, on-duty. Nine hundred and four enlisted men of the Hospital Corps are in the division; noncommissioned officers being about one-sixth of the number.

An increase of sixteen stations in the island of Samar, because of military operations against Pulajanes, has necessitated the employment of an increased number of medical officers and men of the Hospital Corps.

A corresponding increase in morbid conditions has generally resulted. In one case the abandonment of a station, Loquilocan, was made necessary by the entire garrison of about 100 men becoming speedily infected with malarial poisoning.

Casualties from field operations materially increased. They were for the year:

	Killed in action.	Died of wounds.	Wounded.
Americans	19	8	55
Natives	59	3	28
Total	78	11	83

Twenty-four white and 6 native soldiers were drowned, and 6 white and 2 native soldiers committed suicide.

The monthly percentage of sick averaged 4.92, against 5.60 last year, and compares favorably with like percentages in some departments. The deaths for the year were 224, against 248 last year, really a slight increase in the ratio of deaths to the strength of the command throughout the two years considered.

Some indication of the relative prevalences of disease is given by the June, 1905, record of cases in the large hospitals in or near Manila, which, in a total of 688 cases, shows for venereal diseases, 28.63 per cent; wounds and injuries, 17.15; malarial fever, 11.77; dysentery, 6.45, and diarrhea, 5.23. During the year, however, dysentery has ranged higher than malarial fever. There were transferred to the United States 435 sick and 30 insane.

A full examination and repacking of the medical property of the medical supply depot was begun in March, upon the officer then in charge being ordered to the United States. During his administration 2 hospital corps soldiers on duty at the depot were convicted of theft and imprisoned. Recently 2 civilian clerks have been convicted of theft. One opportunity of fraud has arisen from condemned surgical instruments having been ordered sold. Care has not been taken to prevent the substitution of good for condemned instruments.

The examination and repacking of property is necessary not only to verify property returns, but also to see that property retained is well cared for, and to do away with an accumulation of stores not improving with age and beyond probable use for years.

With the authority of the War Department, surplus stores have

been sold to hospitals and to the civil government at an appraised valuation.

PAY DEPARTMENT.

At present 6 detailed officers are serving in the division as paymasters—3 from the cavalry, 2 from the artillery, and 1 from the infantry. Through serving as paymasters their duties give them excellent opportunities for acquiring knowledge of the field service of the line.

It has not always been possible to make monthly payments promptly nor in person. This was done in part to troops having been in the field, and in the departments of the Visayas and of Mindanao to lack of water transportation. In the latter department payments would have been very difficult without the assistance of Commander J. M. Helm, U. S. Navy, chief of bureau of coast guard and of the officers of that service. All funds have been transported and disbursed without the loss of a cent.

Of the disbursements made by officers of the Pay Department, \$725,189 were paid to Philippine Scouts and \$33,982 for commutation of quarters. Deposits were received to the amount of \$589,004.

The provision of law providing that enlisted men may deposit their savings with paymasters, on which the United States pays interest of 4 per cent annually, should, in the interests of the service, be extended to commissioned officers. While I should like to see this general throughout the service, I especially recommend that it shall be done for all officers below the rank of general officers serving in this division. The reasons for this are so great as not to admit of argument. Outside of Manila, in which but four companies of troops are stationed, there are but few if any banks in which officers can make deposits. The opportunity should be given for officers, particularly the younger ones, to make secure their savings. This they can not do at most of the stations in this division.

It is recommended that enlisted men receiving or who are entitled to the 20 per cent increase pay for foreign service, be authorized to receive extra-duty pay in addition, under regulations governing troops not in foreign service. The 20 per cent increase is an increase of pay for all, and is for military service; extra-duty pay is for duty not of a military character and meriting extra compensation as well abroad as at home.

COMMISSARY DEPARTMENT.

During the year the number of post commissary-sergeants stationed in the division has been reduced from 66 to 49. The reduction was facilitated by abolishing commissaries at one-company scout posts, which enabled the needs of commissary-sergeants to be met at each of six new posts established in East Samar during the last six months on account of active military operations there.

A system of monthly requisitions for stores to arrive six months hence has replaced with decided advantage that of yearly requisitions. Meats, vegetables, teas, sugar, and many miscellaneous articles are bought advantageously in this market and are not included in the monthly requisitions. The chief commissary, accompanied by Captain Bottoms, recently visited Hongkong and Australia at their

own expense, to more thoroughly post themselves as to these markets, and there is no doubt but what the Government will be benefited by this professional enterprise.

Thirty-six posts, including Peking, are supplied from the Manila depot on invoices, and 38, not including Manila, on ration returns. Thirty-five subposts are supplied on ration returns by neighboring posts.

As in other departments, there still remains a surplus of articles of old stock received in large amounts in the early days. From this results considerable loss by deterioration, though such loss shows progressive and great reduction. For the first nine months of the year such loss amounted to \$57,159; nearly one-third of this related to canned goods and fresh potatoes.

The reduction in the contract price of beef and the decrease in amount of cold-storage space required by deliveries of meat every six weeks instead of every three months will result in a saving of \$16,000 on the first account and of \$23,585 on the second. From the reduced contract price for next year's supply of potatoes and onions a saving of about \$29,000 is anticipated.

Payments of commutation of rations have been heavy; but the way toward material reduction has been opened by authority given by the War Department to mess detached soldiers, in numbers not exceeding five, at hospital messes when no other American mess is available. Where American detachments and native troops serve at the same station, the difference in army and scout ration makes a common mess impracticable.

Subsistence stores as a whole, and meats especially, have been excellent; difficulty is experienced in obtaining good potatoes, but this problem is now in a fair way of solution.

Aboard transports the different messes—officers', petty officers', crew, and others—are required to be kept within certain limits of cost.

It is impracticable to provide separate galleys for each mess; moreover, unconsumed food prepared for some messes is consumed in others; in other words, it is not practicable to keep stores issued for use in the various messes separate from storeroom to table.

But returns must be made out, Form No. 72 showing issues to each mess, and the values of these stores must not exceed for each mess the number of men therein multiplied by the allotted value of the ration for that mess. The result is that trial returns are made out and if the totals come out too great for some messes, articles are removed as a charge to these and charged to others, until the totals correspond to authorities.

This begets a disregard for accuracy of returns and causes much clerical work.

It is recommended that the return required be modified so as to show the total cost of all subsistence, not the cost of subsisting each mess; the restriction being imposed that such total cost must not exceed the sum totals of authorized costs of all separate messes.

ENGINEER DEPARTMENT.

The chief engineer is also in charge of port works under the civil governor. He is not in charge of the works of fortification; but it

is known that these are being executed according to plans approved at Washington, and with zeal and good judgment. When information is had as to the strength of the garrisons proposed for the different artillery posts, plans and estimates for their shelter can be prepared.

A progress map of Mindanao has been commenced, first consideration being given to the Lanao and Cotabato districts. The Luzon map is also progressing. New maps have been prepared of Manila, superseding that of 1902, and of Manila and vicinity, giving features within a radius of about 10 miles from the city. Forty-four tracings of maps of reservations, districts, marches, etc., have been made. Four thousand blueprints were issued, 219 to the office of the Division of Military Information, and 160 to the civil government.

The plans and specifications for a pier and a wharf, to be constructed in Manila Harbor, were prepared in the office of the chief engineer officer, and contracts were let for their construction June 27, 1905, by him, he having been detailed as acting quartermaster in charge of the work.

The contract for this construction expires June 30, 1906. When it is completed, both ocean and interisland transports will be enabled to lie at wharves, and very much of the expense attending transfer of freight by cascoes and lighters will no longer be necessary.

Many officers of the engineer battalion have been detached for important duty with the civil government and special professional duty. Their services have been of value and have in every instance given great satisfaction. Many details of the enlisted men have been employed on fortification work, wharf construction and repair, road construction, etc.

The pier, wharf, and material for a railway thence to storehouses will cost \$80,726.78.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

The Manila ordnance depot is now equipped with a plant which it is believed will meet all requirements excepting those pertaining to the larger guns which are to be installed for coast-defense purposes.

A large proportion of the equipments sold to officers, such as leggings, saddlecloths, waist belts, saber belts, revolver holsters, etc., are manufactured at this depot.

In the last annual report rendered by this office the need of better storage facilities was referred to, but unfortunately no funds have been available for making any changes in the buildings, and the conditions remain the same.

Cups and meat cans of aluminum have been issued for experimental purposes to troops in each of the departments. Report of the result of the test will shortly be made.

During the past year, especially since officers of the Regular Army have been assigned to the command of scout companies and scout battalions, complaints have been received regarding the Springfield carbines now in the hands of these organizations. While it is to be expected that officers interested in their commands should both desire and endeavor to get the most improved arms for their men, it is thought that the case is aggravated by the condition of the arms now in the hands of these troops. Nearly all of these carbines have been repaired a number of times, and they have now reached a point, espe-

cially with reference to the wearing of the bore, which is not repairable, where little can be done, and the constant complaint as to their inaccuracy is justifiable. The situation has now become so urgent that immediate steps should be taken to arrange for equipping these troops with the present .30-caliber carbine when the model 1903 rifle is put in the hands of the regular troops.

Requests for providing scout organizations with other arms have been twice refused by the War Department.

Under a War Department order of February 20, 1904, all shotguns in the possession of troops were called in with the exception of the Department of Mindanao, which, by special authority, was later exempted. It would be well to revert to the old custom of company guns, issuing not less than three per company and supplying a yearly allowance of ammunition for each organization. Hunting is so closely identified with the best training of a soldier, namely, marksmanship and the ability to take care of one's self in the field, that it would appear to be good policy to encourage it, apart from the fact that in outlying stations the additional gain to the company fare is a very welcome change.

Almost daily requests for shotguns and for ammunition are received from officers throughout the islands. There is not a gun on hand for sale, and all the ammunition will also soon be exhausted. Even that which is on hand is principally black powder and was received as a mixed lot from various arsenals in the States, where it was held for sale. As there is no loss to the Government in supplying either the arms or the ammunition (unless it be the freight on same, which might, however, be added to the sales price if desired), it is thought that a return to the previous policy of furnishing both would be to the best interests of the service.

SIGNAL CORPS.

Eighty-six telegraph and 214 telephone stations are operated by the insular government and 82 telegraph and 11 telephone stations by the military.

The military telephone system of Manila includes 193 telephones.

During the year 157 miles of constructed line have been transferred to the constabulary. The value of line and material transferred was \$8,826.15.

Ten officers and 367 enlisted men of the Signal Corps are on duty in the island and 181 civilian employees connected with the corps. Of the compensation of the latter, 18 per cent is charged to the army appropriation and the balance to the insular government.

The cable mileage is 1,621 miles; only five cables are 80 miles in length. The use of wireless telegraphy, if only to be independent of cable breakage, suggests itself. Further investigation of this project by the Chief Signal Officer of the Army is suggested.

Telegraph receipts amounting to \$60,039 were collected and turned into the insular treasury.

Free business was handled:

Signal Corps	\$47, 756. 44
War Department	74, 595. 34
Navy Department	1, 988. 04
Other United States Government Departments	4, 807. 38
Insular Government	142, 989. 31

SCOUT COMPANIES.

Progress was made toward increasing the efficiency of scout companies by the formation, by General Orders, No. 32, War Department, February 28, 1905, of six battalions of four companies each, in addition to the first battalion, which, as a temporary organization, presented such a creditable exhibit at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, and was made a permanent organization December 1, 1904.

All battalions were organized under the provisions of section 36, act of February 2, 1901.

This law requires that battalions and companies be commanded by captains and lieutenants of the line detailed as majors and captains, respectively.

So far as concerns detailing lieutenants of the line as company commanders, the law, besides increasing the number of officers on detached service, fails to encourage scout officers to their best efforts, since even with three years' service as lieutenants in command, and with consequent knowledge of their men and surroundings, they are not deemed qualified to command their companies so soon as the latter are organized into battalions. Many of these lieutenants are most deserving and highly qualified to command companies, and Congressional action looking to the appointment of the most deserving is strongly recommended. It is particularly fitting that they be not married nor over 40 years of age.

But a battalion organization is not a panacea for all ills of companies of scouts; in fact, save for instruction and economy, it is inconsistent with scout duty. It was the assembling together of the companies of the First Battalion under a capable officer that demonstrated how high a standard could thus be reached. But service in these islands differs from exposition service. Here the difficulty is to get a battalion together. The rule is general and without exception that here the battalion does not serve as a unit. The most that can be hoped is assembling two companies of a battalion at its headquarters, instructing these thoroughly and replacing them, one at a time, by the other two companies, and thus eventually instructing and maintaining the instruction of the entire battalion. With this object in view, a letter was addressed to the governor-general June 20, 1905, from which the following is extracted:

I desire to increase the efficiency of scout companies by increasing their instruction and discipline and making them more mobile when on duty with the civil government.

With this in view, I should like to effect in the Department of Luzon the organization of as many companies as practicable into additional battalions, and to assemble at each battalion headquarters at least two companies.

I find that separate companies are now becoming more and more anchored with impedimenta which belong to fixed rather than to field stations, and occasion great expense when so anchored, arising from rent of hospitals and other buildings which would be needed only at the battalion headquarters. Also, commanding officers are hampered by property responsibility and paper work, which would be reduced were their companies considered as temporarily detached for field service.

Fifteen companies on duty with the civil government are divided up into from two to four detachments. This division of companies demands that the noncommissioned officers in command of detachments should be thoroughly trained to meet exigencies of the situations.

From the following list of 30 companies on duty with the civil government, it will be seen that 19 out of the 50 scout companies have been on such duty continuously for more than two years. (List not extracted.)

May not some of these companies in the Department of Luzon be now ordered to report back to their department commanders, and the others in that department, as soon as they shall have accomplished the work for which they were detached, and will it not be practicable hereafter for companies on duty with the civil government to be replaced by others from time to time, so that all may be given opportunities for instruction and for recuperation from the field service, which duty with the civil government would amount to?

If companies be released, is it desirable to retain them at present stations for moral support of the civil government?

Where stations of companies remaining with the civil government are within a few miles of each other, may not two companies be stationed at one post? If so, which post is preferred?

Where companies, if any, are desired to be continued at stations for moral support, and two or more are within a few miles of each other, would the moral support be satisfactory if the companies were concentrated at one station? If so, which?

Is there objection to so changing stations of companies serving with the civil government, or replacing such companies by others not so serving, as to bring companies of the same battalions more nearly together—e. g., the Tenth and Eleventh Companies to change stations, and the Nineteenth and Fifteenth?

This letter is now under consideration, with prospect of favorable action so far as conditions will permit.

By cablegram of the War Department, dated December 20, 1904, recommendation was asked as to arming scouts with the Krag carbine in lieu of the Springfield, when the regular troops were armed early this year (as then supposed) with the new Springfield rifle.

Reply was cabled December 28, 1904, recommending the suggested change, in which recommendation the department commander concurred.

Sufficient reasons for making the change have been given in that part of this report relating to the Ordnance Department.

An increase of the clothing allowance of scout companies from 9 cents to 17 cents a day for the first six months of enlistment is recommended.

POST EXCHANGES.

The sum of \$17,747 was expended on post exchange construction during the year, resulting in the construction of five buildings, including that at Fort William McKinley, an excellent structure and centrally located for the large garrison at that post. These exchanges have been open too short a time to admit of forming an opinion as to their influence on the welfare of the men.

Nor have the conditions in the islands been such as to furnish facts as to like influence at the half a dozen posts in the division where exchanges already existed which would be of weight as shaping policy with respect to exchanges in the States.

Toward the end of April the commanding general, Department of the Visayas, attempted to collect facts relating to the exchanges in his department. But three were in existence, and the reports pertaining to these, and received from other posts, were not such as to found thereon any satisfactory statement, such as was contemplated by Circular No. 8, War Department, current series.

As a rule garrison life here has been too unsettled and uncertain to justify elaborately fitting out an exchange. Commodities can with difficulty be obtained, except from the commissary department, and these may not be sold at a profit in the form in which purchased; billiard tables and paraphernalia are so many incumbrances when

troops are moved, or deteriorate from lack of care when troops take the field.

Replacing organizations with others from the United States began almost with this calendar year and will continue into the next. By that time it is hoped that the necessity of field operations will have ended. Then, with the return to garrison life, more definite information may be obtained as to the operation and influences of the exchange.

CHURCH CLAIMS.

The long-pending matter of rental and damages of church property in these islands has been referred to a board consisting of Lieut. Col. John A. Hull, judge-advocate of the division; Lieut. Col. Alexander O. Brodie, Military Secretary's Department, and Maj. William W. Gibson, General Staff. The board meets with cordial cooperation of the church authorities, and the hope is expressed that at last these claims are on the road to satisfactory adjudication.

The amount of money and labor involved is so great, however, that it will probably be some months before the report of the board is submitted.

DEPARTMENT OF MINDANAO.

The year has been one of marked activity in the field, as shown by the summary given above. Almost uniformly the objects of the various expeditions have been obtained and with much credit under trying circumstances to the troops participating. From the major-general commanding to the latest recruit, all have been zealous in field services; and appreciation is expressed of the services of sentinels at posts in the department who must ever be on the alert against stealthy murderous assailants, particularly after dark.

DEPARTMENT OF LUZON.

The events of particular importance have been few, the more prominent being the operations in Cavite Province. These were initiated by instructions January 26, 1905, to the department commander, as follows:

Agreeably to the verbal request of the civil governor of this date, the major-general commanding the division directs that you detail a squadron of cavalry, under a specially competent field officer, to proceed to the Province of Cavite for the purpose of cooperating with the native troops in the restoration and preservation of order there and in adjoining provinces.

These troops will be in the nature of a supporting force to the native troops that, under the direction of the civil government, are engaged in eradicating the ladrones of that and adjoining provinces that are depredating upon the peaceable citizens. It will be the special duty of this command to protect the orderly citizens in the neighborhood of their respective camps; also, where it is possible, to assist in the punishment of outlaws.

It should be kept in mind that it is the special province of the native scouts and constabulary to suppress thieving operations in that and adjoining provinces. The regular forces will assist and cooperate in every way with the native troops in their operations.

The senior officer of the regular troops should keep in close touch with the commanding officer of the native troops, cooperate with them, and give them every possible support. The immediate command of these troops will remain with you and the officer designated by you. The cavalry thus sent should be

provided with rations and a sufficient supply of ammunition to accomplish the purpose of their mission.

The squadron should be directed to proceed to the town of Imus, but before leaving, or while en route, the commanding officer will open telegraphic correspondence with Colonel Baker, of the Constabulary, and Major Shanks, the governor of the province, and arrange an early meeting, and together determine the points that it is advisable to locate the different troops of his squadron. The officer in command should be instructed to exercise his own judgment in this and other matters, having in mind the most effective assistance it is possible to give the governor and the native troops in the work they have in hand.

You will cause these troops to be supplied with funds for payment of scouts, guides, and any other service that may be necessary, all service to be met in cash payments. On the completion of the service herein charged, you will order the command to return to their proper station.

DEPARTMENT OF THE VISAYAS.

This abstract of the report of operations in this department is almost bodily extracted from the report of its department commander, Brig. Gen. W. H. Carter.

Owing to almost continuous petty disorder a large number of stations previously abandoned have been reoccupied. This has been accomplished by detaching troops from the semipermanent posts and the employment of companies of scouts sent to the department from the Department of Luzon. While the new stations are merely bases for field operations, it has been found necessary to erect temporary shelter of native materials to insure the health of the troops and with a view to economy in the use of tents, which last but a short time during the rainy season.

An outbreak began in Samar July 21, 1904. This was followed by disorders in all the other large islands of the department—Negros, Panay, Cebu, and Leyte. The ordinary ladrone element, reenforced to some extent from the idle and criminal classes, was responsible for the troubles in the last-named islands. The constabulary forces have been able to hold the ladrone bands in check without assistance of the Army except in Samar and Cebu. During the ensuing five months the constabulary force in Samar was reenforced by companies of Philippine Scouts, aggregating about 700 men. The scout companies and constabulary detachments withdrawn from other islands and sent to Samar gradually raised the combined force of native troops to about 1,700 or 1,800 men, but the results of the first half year's campaigning were not wholly reassuring, for reasons set forth in detail in the report of the department commander.

The situation gradually got beyond the control of the constabulary and scout forces, and, in order to free them from garrison work in the towns, sixteen companies of the Twelfth and Fourteenth Infantry were distributed about the disaffected coasts to enable the people who so desired to come from their hiding places and undertake the rebuilding of their burned homes. The following instructions of the division commander to the department commander governed the troops ordered to various points in Samar:

These troops will be in the nature of a supporting force to the native troops that, under the direction of the civil governor, are engaged in subduing the hostile Pulajanes. It will be the special duty of these companies to protect loyal natives in the neighborhood of their respective camps, encouraging the people to build homes and resume their accustomed vocations. Let them understand that you are in full accord with the operations being prosecuted against the

hostiles, and that it is our purpose to aid in the work in every way possible, and at the same time give all protection to orderly and well-behaved people, and let them understand further that if need be this is only the beginning of our work; that it will be followed to any extent that the misbehavior of the people may make necessary. Our troops will not, unless otherwise ordered by me, take an aggressive part in the campaign. They will, however, be instructed to repel an attack made upon them by the hostiles and not only to repel but to follow and administer punishment to the limit of their ability to do so. This instruction applies not only to actual, but to threatened attacks. You will keep in touch with the commanding officer of the native troops and have these companies give him all possible aid, especially in caring for his sick and wounded. The immediate command of these troops will remain with you. A copy of these instructions will be provided the commanding officer of each company for his information and guidance in addition to such special instructions as you may deem necessary to give them within the lines herein indicated.

Under the protection of the troops much progress was made, but there still remained the unsatisfactory condition that the people feared to engage in any profitable occupation out of sight of the villages for fear of the ubiquitous Pulajanes.

Under later authority of the division commander the regular troops were directed to cooperate with the constabulary forces whenever requested by the chief of constabulary. Several expeditions were made, but contact with the main body of the enemy was not had owing to lack of information and to the fact that all the natives of the interior appeared to be friendly to the Pulajanes and acted as out-posts for them.

During the month of May the necessary authority for troops to aid in quelling the disorder, acting under the direction of the department commander, was received. Immediate steps were taken to put a number of strong detachments, each comprised of half a company of American and half a company of native troops, in the field, and arrangements were made so that upon the return of a detachment to its base station another detachment should be ready to start immediately.

Under an agreement approved by the governor-general and division commander the army has special charge of the eastern half of the island, but with authority to operate wherever the Pulajanes may be found.

Within ten days after the army was called upon to act under the orders of the department commander important captures were effected and information secured as to the location of the camp of the real leader of the Pulajan movement, Col. Enrique Daguhob.

Advantage of this was at once taken to organize an expedition under the command of Capt. Cromwell Stacey, Twenty-first Infantry, consisting of 80 men of E Company, Twenty-first Infantry, and the Thirty-eighth Company, Philippine Scouts, the latter under Capt. W. W. Taylor, jr., Philippine Scouts. The detachment was accompanied by Third Lieut. Juan Salse, Philippines Constabulary, as a volunteer, and 5 native guides. The camp was attacked; Colonel Daguhob, 3 of his principal officers, and others, in all 94, killed.

The patience, care, and success with which this expedition was conducted reflect the greatest credit upon Captain Stacey and all the officers and men who accompanied him.

The completeness of the surprise and the gallantry with which the troops made the attack on the best organized and equipped forces of the Pulajanes had an immediate effect upon the whole region in

the way of surrenders. Large numbers of people who had been away from their villages for nearly a year began presenting themselves immediately after the fight. The civil governor of Samar was notified of these facts and took immediate steps to provide rice for these ignorant and homeless people until such time as they may be able to arrange to procure their own food. The leaders and those who are known criminals are the only ones whom it is worth while to hold, and all of these two classes are turned over, upon capture, to the civil authorities.

There have been a large number of expeditions during the year. The scouts operated under the orders of the chief of constabulary until the department commander was directed to assume control, when the companies were relieved from duty under the civil government.

Fifty-eight encounters were had with the enemy during the year, occasioning the death of 62 and wounding of 19 scouts, and 4 deaths and 3 wounded American troops, resulting in losses as follows: Scouts killed 62, wounded 19; American troops, 4 killed and 3 wounded. One scout officer was killed and 1 wounded, and of the American troops killed all were members of the Hospital Corps.

The United States Navy has kindly cooperated, five gunboats and two launches, all under Lieut. Commander Hugh Rodman, U. S. Navy, having been placed at the disposal of the department commander. The moral effect of the presence of these vessels about the island of Samar has been very great, and their services in moving troops to exposed points and in standing by several towns threatened with burning until troops could be brought in has been the kind of assistance which counts for much.

Experience in Samar demonstrates that the constabulary organization is not suitable for extensive punitive expeditions, and these troops should not in future embark in such undertakings. No effort was lacking on the part of the division commander to make their campaign a full and complete success. It is regretted that it was not all that could be desired. At the request of the governor-general, the regular troops, supported by the Navy, have taken charge of affairs in east Samar, and, as set forth in the report of the commanding general of the Department of the Visayas, with very good results. These troops are cooperating with the new governor in a way that promises the complete restoration of order throughout the island at no distant day. Our troops there have earned the deserved praise of their commanding general. They have endured many privations and hardships and borne themselves in a way that shows them to be good soldiers, fully appreciating their obligations to the Government.

The Pulajan outbreak reported should not be considered as having any political significance whatever or one with which the more intelligent people of the islands have the least sympathy. It should be looked upon by our people at home very much as they would an Apache Indian outbreak in Arizona. It is the work of a semicivilized hill people, by inheritance hostile to the more civilized of their own people living on the coast.

The general officers commanding departments have acquitted themselves in the most satisfactory manner. The officers of the staff departments and the aids on the staff of the division commander have, without exception, given the service the best that was in them.

RECOMMENDATIONS IN GENERAL.

It is thought that the inauguration of the Chief Executive of the nation, the President, should be heralded throughout the United States and its possessions.

It is recommended that Army Regulations be amended to provide for the firing of a national salute at noon of Inauguration Day at every post provided with suitable artillery.

Reconsideration of the ruling (of the Chief of Staff) that no more colonels with civil-war service be promoted to brigadier-generals is respectfully suggested. If adhered to it sends to the rear, so to speak, several of the most deserving colonels now in service—men distinguished not only for long and faithful service, but for service in the field, and with battle records that would make them greatly distinguished in any army in the world—who have proved themselves able and efficient commanders, yet young enough to have careers as general officers—careers greatly to the benefit of the service. In this division Col. Butler D. Price, of the Sixteenth Infantry, is a strong, active man, in every way equipped for high command, with four years (lacking a month) yet to serve. Colonel Regan, of the Ninth Infantry, with three years and five months' service ahead of him, is in perfect condition of health. The service is entitled to his knowledge and long experience and he is entitled to be considered eligible for promotion. Colonel Bubb, of the Twelfth Infantry, does not retire on age limit until April, 1907. Colonel Godwin, Fourteenth Cavalry, a very capable officer, is barred, though he has nine years yet on the active list. As a youth he served nearly six months as an enlisted man, when he entered the Military Academy; has had honorable and continuous service since, and is acknowledged by all who know him as an able commander. Colonel Morton, of the Seventh Cavalry, though with three years' service in the civil war, has five years before he reaches the retiring age. The law providing for the retirement of this class of officers with increased grade was enacted to keep them in and not drive them out of active service. It was to dissuade these experienced officers from asking promotion and retirement as vacancies occurred that the law was recommended. With the law they knew that promotion awaited them at the close of their service, but it was never intended to in the meantime be a bar to the promotion of those specially capable of higher command.

It is recommended that in future the assignment of staff officers to particular duties in this division be left to the judgment and discretion of the division commander. At present he may make no changes in their duties without special authority from the War Department. In time of war such restriction might have the significance of defeat. Taking into consideration the distance from our seat of government and emergencies constantly arising here, the same rights and consideration should be given the commander of the division as would be given a commander of an army in the field in time of war. Where regulations interfere they should be amended. It should be understood that the duty of bureau chiefs requires them to furnish a commander with suitable staff officers and material for him to properly perform his duties, and that his responsibility is to the Chief of Staff and the Secretary of War only, the bureau chiefs being entirely di-

forced from any connection whatever with either officers or materials other than a proper accounting of public property. Any tendency to interference should be not only restrained, but should be absolutely prohibited by the highest authority.

Every opportunity should be afforded officers to become acquainted with foreign military matters through personal observation. This would be in the interest both of the service and the officer. Occasionally officers are ordered to foreign countries and their expenses are paid. Others are granted leave of absence, with permission of the War Department to go beyond the sea, and these pay their own expenses. Both classes are ordered to avail themselves of all proper opportunities to obtain military information while abroad and to report the results of their observations.

Travel in foreign countries must broaden the traveler, provided he avails himself of his opportunities; but routes of travel for pleasure are not always those from which the most profit may be obtained. Hence, reports submitted by officers traveling for pleasure can hardly be expected to be replete with valuable technical information.

To encourage travel and observation at the same time, it is recommended that to leave of absence granted officers with permission to visit foreign countries be attached the condition that should the reports rendered by them be found by their value to justify it, their status while absent will be considered as that of duty at their expense, and if the reports be of special value, and the journey made on an itinerary previously submitted to and approved by the War Department, mileage will be paid by the United States as though the journey had been made under orders.

Every encouragement consistent with the welfare of the organizations to which they belong should be given officers to educate themselves by travel, and as officers on duty in these islands have overcome the greater part of the distance from the United States to the East, while stationed here they should be specially encouraged to visit those countries where distance from the States would otherwise be a great impediment to their so doing.

The service of cavalry in this division outside of the island of Luzon is not possible, and on this island is at a disadvantage. To diminish the regular force stationed in the island is inadvisable. To supplant cavalry by infantry would be to throw the brunt of foreign service on the infantry. Another course is recommended for consideration. It is to dismount one squadron of each regiment, the particular squadron to be changed from time to time. This course would result in reduced cost of remounts, supplies, and transportation, approximately one-third of the cost of maintenance of the cavalry, exclusive of pay, clothing, and subsistence of personnel, being saved.

When surplus horses have been absorbed, the annual saving would be about \$140,000 in cost of remounts and forage; and the cost of transporting 360 horses and 7,200 tons of forage, 5,000 of the latter from the United States.

Enlisted men may be advanced to the grade of second lieutenant after a service of two years in the Army as enlisted men.

Cadets at the United States Military Academy can not be so advanced until after a service of four years.

The cadet who, after two or more years of service, is found deficient in one or more studies may be relegated to private life, though his deficiency be in a subject as to which enlisted men are not examined when trying for a commission.

No less than four years of thorough, practical, and theoretical work is required of the cadet; not more than two years of less thorough practical work and a moderate amount of theoretical work may advance the enlisted man.

The inequality is glaring and should be reduced by increasing the length of preliminary service required of the enlisted man to at least four years, exceptions being always made for those appointments which are rewards for conspicuous merit or gallantry. These should be made wherever earned.

The law providing for commissioning enlisted men was intended to encourage this class by prospect of possible advancement to the highest grade of officer, and so far was praiseworthy in the extreme. But it falls short of its object in that advantage is taken of it as providing a short cut to a commission by men who have no idea of serving as enlisted men beyond the minimum period required to secure that commission.

Very respectfully,

H. C. CORBIN,

Major-General, Adjutant-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

THE MILITARY SECRETARY,

War Department.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF LUZON.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF LUZON.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF LUZON,
Manila, P. I., June 30, 1905.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of operations in this department since June 30, 1904:

I have commanded the department since June 15, 1905, and in this limited time there has been no opportunity for me to make inspections of the posts, and the information which I have received has been largely furnished me by the heads of the departments.

The arrivals of military organizations from July 1, 1904, to June 30, 1905, have been as follows:

Organization.	From—	Date.
Company I, Third Battalion of Engineers.....	Visayas.....	Oct. 11, 1904
Fifth Battery Field Artillery.....	United States.....	Jan. 28, 1905
Headquarters and Second Squadron Eighth Cavalry.....	do.....	Mar. 27, 1905
First Battalion Philippine Scouts.....	do.....	May 2, 1905
Third Squadron Eighth Cavalry.....	do.....	Do.
Second Squadron Seventh Cavalry.....	do.....	June 4, 1905
Headquarters and 11 companies Ninth Infantry.....	do.....	Do.
First Squadron Seventh Cavalry.....	do.....	June 27, 1905
Headquarters and 12 companies Sixteenth Infantry.....	do.....	Do.

The departures as follows:

Organization.	For—	Date.
Eighteenth Company Philippine Scouts.....	Visayas.....	Aug. 26, 1904
Thirty-eighth Company Philippine Scouts.....	do.....	Sept. 27, 1904
First and Fifth Companies Philippine Scouts.....	do.....	Dec. 12, 1905
Ninth Battery Field Artillery.....	United States.....	Feb. 15, 1905
Forty-sixth Company Philippine Scouts.....	Visayas.....	Feb. 16, 1904
Headquarters and First and Second Squadrons Thirteenth Cavalry.....	United States.....	Apr. 15, 1905
Headquarters and Second Squadron Twelfth Cavalry.....	do.....	May 18, 1905
First Battalion Philippine Scouts.....	Visayas.....	May 27, 1905
First Squadron Twelfth Cavalry.....	United States.....	June 15, 1905
Headquarters and 12 companies Fourth Infantry.....	do.....	Do.
Headquarters and 12 companies Twentieth Infantry.....	Mindanao.....	June 29, 1905

The following troops now serving within the department: Headquarters and 3 troops of Engineers; headquarters and 12 troops, Second Cavalry; 8 troops, Seventh Cavalry; headquarters and 8 troops, Eighth Cavalry; 4 troops, Twelfth Cavalry; 4 troops, Thirteenth Cavalry; Fifth Battery, Field Artillery; headquarters and 12 companies, Seventh Infantry; headquarters and 11 companies, Ninth Infantry; headquarters and 12 companies, Sixteenth Infantry; 31 companies, Philippine Scouts.

Alphabetical list of stations.

Station.	Province or island.	Commanding officer.	Troops.
Amadeo.....	Cavite	Maj. W. K. Wright	Headquarters and First Battalion, Seventh Infantry; Company C, Seventh Infantry.
Amaya.....	do	First Lieut. G. I. Feeter	Company D, Seventh Infantry.
Ambulong.....	Batangas	First Lieut. M. T. Barlow	Second Company, Philippine Scouts.
Antipolo.....	Bulacan.....	Noncommissioned officer	Detail, Sixteenth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Atimonan.....	Tayabas	Maj. R. W. Mearns.....	Thirty-first Company, Philippine Scouts.
Balayan.....	Batangas	First Lieut. James Conway	Third Company, Philippine Scouts.
Baler.....	Tayabas	Noncommissioned officer	Detail, Thirty-fourth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Barcelona.....	Alabat	do	Detail, Thirty-second Company, Philippine Scouts.
Biñan.....	Laguna	First Lieut. R. Treadwell.....	Sixth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Binangonan.....	Rizal	First Lieut. W. R. King	Sixteenth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Boac.....	Marinduque.....	First Lieut. A. Roeder	Forty-second Company, Philippine Scouts.
Bulalacao.....	Mindoro	Second Lieut. G. M. Shelton	Detail, Forty-first Company, Philippine Scouts.
Cabanatuan.....	Na. Ecija	First Lieut. George Smith.....	Ninth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Cabcbaben.....	Bataan	Noncommissioned officer	Detail, Eleventh Company, Philippine Scouts.
Cainta.....	Rizal	do	Detail, Sixteenth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Calamba.....	Laguna	First Lieut. G. N. Kimball	Detail, Twelfth Cavalry.
Calauag.....	Tayabas	Second Lieut. H. R. Drake	Thirty-second Company, Philippine Scouts.
Calapan.....	Mindoro	First Lieut. Jos. Bennett	Forty-first Company, Philippine Scouts.
Camp Antique.....	Tabaco, Albay.....	Maj. S. M. Kochersperger	Twelfth, Fourteenth, Twenty-sixth, Twenty-eighth Companies, Philippine Scouts.
Camp Daraga.....	Albay	Maj. F. B. Jones.....	Companies I, K, L, M, Ninth Infantry.
Camp Eldridge.....	Laguna	Capt. T. M. Anderson, jr.	Company M, Seventh Infantry.
Camp Gregg.....	Pangasinan.....	First Lieut. R. P. Stoneburn	Fifteenth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Camp McGrath.....	Batangas	Maj. L. S. McCormick	Companies E, F, G, H, Seventh Cavalry; Companies K, L, Twelfth Cavalry.
Camp Stotsenburg.....	Pampanga.....	Maj. F. O. Johnson.....	Third Squadron, Thirteenth Cavalry; Headquarters First and Second Squadrons, Second Cavalry.
Camp Wallace.....	Union.....	Capt. W. F. Flynn.....	Companies I, K, L, M, Eighth Cavalry.
Camp Wilhelm.....	Tayabas	Lieut. Col. E. B. Robertson.....	Companies A, C, D, Ninth Infantry.
Candelaria.....	do	First Lieut. Fredk. Koch	Tenth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Carmona.....	Cavite	First Lieut. R. E. Brooks	Seventh Company, Philippine Scouts.
Casiguran.....	Tayabas	Noncommissioned officer	Detail, Thirty-fourth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Cuartel España.....	Manila	Col. James Regan	Companies E, H, Ninth Infantry.
Cuartel Meisic.....	do	Capt. F. L. Palmer	Companies F, G, Ninth Infantry.
Daet.....	Ambos Camarines.....	Capt. F. S. Leisenring	Thirty-third Company, Philippine Scouts.
Dasmarinas.....	Cavite	First Lieut. G. L. Pitney	Twenty-ninth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Dinalupijan.....	Bataan	Noncommissioned officer	Detail, Twenty-third Company, Philippine Scouts.
Donsol.....	Sorsogon	Second Lieut. H. McElderry	Detail, Twentieth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Fort McKinley.....	Rizal	Col. B. D. Price.....	Headquarters Companies A, B, C, D, I, K, L, M, Sixteenth Infantry; Fifth Battery, Field Artillery; Companies E, F, G, H, I, L, Seventh Infantry; Companies I, L, M, Engineers; Companies E, F, G, H, Eighth Cavalry.

Alphabetical list of stations—continued.

Station.	Province or island.	Commanding officer.	Troops.
Guinayangan	Tayabas	Capt. R. J. Reaney	Seventeenth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Hermosa	Bataan	Noncommissioned officer	Detail Twenty-third Company, Philippine Scouts.
Imus	Cavite	Maj. G. B. Duncan	Twenty-second Company, Philippine Scouts.
Indang	do	Second Lieut. E. I. Small	Forty-fifth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Infanta	Tayabas	First Lieut. John Holtman	Thirty-fourth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Jalajala	Rizal	Noncommissioned officer	Detail Twenty-first Company, Philippine Scouts.
Labo	Ambos Camarines	do	Detail Thirty-third Company, Philippine Scouts.
Limay	Bataan	First Lieut. F. Skievaski	Eleventh Company, Philippine Scouts.
Lopez	Tayabas	Noncommissioned officer	Detail Thirty-second Company, Philippine Scouts.
Malahi Island	Laguna Bay	Capt. C. P. George	Companies E, F, G, H, Sixteenth Infantry.
Mariveles	Bataan	Capt. W. B. Graham	Twenty-seventh Company, Philippine Scouts.
Magallanes	Cavite	Lieut. W. F. C. Jenson	Company B, Seventh Infantry.
Marangondon	do	Capt. G. S. Turner	Company A, Seventh Infantry.
Mercedes	Ambos Camarines	Noncommissioned officer	Detail Thirty-third Company, Philippine Scouts.
Meycauayan	Bulacan	do	Detail Nineteenth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Morong	Rizal	do	Detail Twenty-first Company, Philippine Scouts.
Muntinlupa	do	Second Lieut. A. K. Berners	Detail Sixth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Naic	Cavite	Capt. J. C. Minus	Thirteenth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Nasugbu	Batangas	Second Lieut. A. Deubery	Detail Eleventh Company, Philippine Scouts.
Paracale	Ambos Camarines	Noncommissioned officer	Detail Thirty-third Company, Philippine Scouts.
Pasay garrison	Manila	Second Lieut. F. McEnhill	Detail Second Cavalry.
Peñeranda	Nueva Ecija	Noncommissioned officer	Detail Ninth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Pilar	Sorsogon	First Lieut. R. L. Moseley	Twentieth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Polo	Bulacan	Second Lieut. A. W. Barry	Nineteenth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Pumping station	Rizal	Second Lieut. W. R. Scott	Detail Company K, Seventh Infantry.
Rosario	Cavite	First Lieut. G. F. Bailey	Troop M, Second Cavalry.
Samal	Bataan	Second Lieut. E. Bennett	Twenty-third Company, Philippine Scouts.
San Isidro	Nueva Ecija	Second Lieut. R. Kernan	Detail Ninth Company, Philippine Scouts.
San Mateo	Rizal	Capt. J. J. Toffey, jr	Company K, Seventh Infantry.
Santa Cruz	Cavite	Capt. J. H. Gardner	Troop L, Second Cavalry.
Santa Maria	Bulacan	Noncommissioned officer	Detail Nineteenth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Santa Mesa	Manila	Capt. T. B. Dugan	Troops I and M, Twelfth Cavalry.
Santo Tomas	Batangas	First Lieut. J. J. A. Clark	Twenty-fifth Company, Philippine Scouts.
S. P. Tunisan	Laguna	Capt. L. J. Van Schaick	Eighth Company, Philippine Scouts.
S. F. de Malabon	Cavite	Maj. F. W. Sibley	Troops I and K, Second Cavalry.
Subi, Talim Island	Rizal	Noncommissioned officer	Detail Sixteenth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Talisay	Batangas	Second Lieut. C. Famel	Detail Second Company, Philippine Scouts.
Tanay	Rizal	First Lieut. J. H. Neff	Twenty-first Company, Philippine Scouts.
Tiaong	Tayabas	Second Lieut. J. McBride	Detail Tenth Company, Philippine Scouts.

FORT WILLIAM MCKINLEY, RIZAL.

This post was established as an independent military station by General Orders, No. 88, from these headquarters, dated May 12, 1904. This fact was not noted on the last annual report.

The number of buildings turned over to this department for occupancy by the garrison up to June 30, 1905, was 134, including the buildings mentioned in last year's report. On June 30 the garrison had been increased to include headquarters and two battalions Sixteenth Infantry; headquarters and six companies Seventh Infantry; headquarters, Third Battalion of Engineers, and Companies I, L, and M; headquarters and two squadrons Eighth Cavalry; Fifth Battery, Field Artillery.

The unfinished work at this post is in the hands of the constructing quartermaster. A number of other buildings, it is expected, sufficient to accommodate the whole of the Sixteenth Infantry, and an additional squadron of the Eighth Cavalry, will be completed shortly.

CAMP GREGG, BAYAMBANG, PANGASINAN.

The abandonment of this post was directed in General Orders, No. 10, from these headquarters, February 20, 1905, which withdrew the battalion of the Twentieth Infantry which then formed the garrison.

Before this plan was executed, however, it became necessary to send the Fifteenth Company of Philippine Scouts to Camp Gregg, which remained there until removed from the department by General Orders, No. 43, headquarters Philippines Division, June 27, 1905, since which time the post has been cared for by a small detachment from the Second Cavalry. It is contemplated to regarrison this post with one squadron of the Seventh Cavalry on its arrival in the month of July, 1905.

CAMP McGRATH, BATANGAS.

During the past year the accommodations for two additional troops of cavalry were completed at this station. The present garrison consists of eight troops of the Seventh Cavalry, one of them being in rented quarters in the town of Batangas, besides two troops of the Twelfth Cavalry, which are under orders to sail for the United States on August 15, 1905. The headquarters and band of the Seventh Cavalry will be sent to this station on their arrival about the end of July.

As there are accommodations at the post at present for only eight troops of cavalry and a regimental band the post is somewhat crowded at this date, but one troop of cavalry will be sent to Calamba, Laguna, in the near future, and before their sailing date the two troops of the Twelfth Cavalry will be removed to Santa Mesa Barracks.

CAMP ELDRIDGE, LOS BAÑOS, LAGUNA.

The post at Los Baños was officially designated as Camp Eldridge by General Orders, No. 85, these headquarters, September 26, 1904, in honor of the late Capt. Bogardus Eldridge, Fourteenth Infantry, who died October 2, 1899, of wounds received in action near Bacoor, Cavite. This station was garrisoned by one troop of cavalry at date

of last annual report. On account of a severe outbreak of surra it was deemed advisable to replace the cavalry garrison by infantry, and to tear down the infected stables. Accordingly, by General Orders, No. 66, these headquarters, July 26, 1904, the cavalry garrison was relieved by Companies F and H, Fourth Infantry, taken from Sorso-gon. These companies remained until the departure of the Fourth Infantry to the United States, since which time it has been occupied by one company (M) of the Seventh Infantry under General Orders, No. 30, these headquarters, May 22, 1905.

The post is now practically complete for a battalion of infantry, but it is not intended at present to increase its garrison.

CAMP STOTSSENBURG, NEAR ANGELES, PAMPANGA.

This station is now garrisoned by headquarters and two squadrons of the Second Cavalry and one squadron of the Thirteenth Cavalry, the latter being under orders to return to the United States July 15, 1905. Eventually the squadron of the Second Cavalry, now in the field in Cavite Province, will be assigned to this station.

This is an excellent station for a cavalry regiment. The quarters and stables are ample and good, drill ground excellent, and target range nearly perfect. Through some mistake pipe for bringing water to the post has not been available, and the men are suffering for lack of shower baths. This pipe has been ordered from the United States and is expected to arrive very soon. An ice plant and cold-storage room should be erected at this post, as the delivery three times per week by a freight train from Manila (55 miles), with change to branch road at Angeles, is unsatisfactory, and makes it necessary to cook all the fresh meat the day it arrives.

CAMP DARAGA, LEGASPI, ALBAY.

The name of Camp Daraga for this post was officially recognized in General Orders, No. 85, these headquarters, September 26, 1904.

With the additional accommodations furnished during the year, this post is complete for two battalions of infantry and regimental headquarters. It is now occupied by the Third Battalion, Ninth Infantry, which relieved headquarters and six companies of the Fourth Infantry, under General Orders, No. 30, these headquarters, May 22, 1905.

This is an important station, and though it was in contemplation at one time to discontinue the American garrison at this point on the departure of the Fourth Infantry for the United States, it was finally concluded to retain it as an infantry station for one battalion. The advantages of this point are set forth in the last annual report.

CAMP WILHELM, LUCENA, TAYABAS.

The post near Lucena was officially designated as Camp Wilhelm, in honor of the late Capt. William H. Wilhelm, Twenty-first Infantry, who died at Lipa, Batangas, June 12, 1901, of wounds received in action near that town on the 10th of that month.

The present garrison consists of three companies of the First Bat-

talion, Ninth Infantry, which relieved the Third Battalion, Fourth Infantry, under General Orders, No. 80, these headquarters, May 22, 1905. Company B, Ninth Infantry, remains on duty as the legation guard, Peking, China. The prevailing conditions at this post are sufficiently described in the last annual report.

BAGUIO, BENGUET.

The detachment of scouts formerly kept at this point was replaced by a detachment from the Second Cavalry at Camp Wallace, under General Orders, No. 73, these headquarters, August 6, 1904. Their duties were to prevent trespassing and the cutting of timber.

The completion of a new road to Baguio, built by the civil government, the difficulties of the old Camp Wallace-Benguet trail, the change of station of the Second Cavalry to Camp Stotsenburg, and other reasons, induced the former department commander to withdraw this detachment and all movable Government property, and to turn over the buildings at the subpost of Baguio to the constabulary. These changes were ordered by telegrams dated March 29, 1905. Under the agreement with the civil government, this occupation is only temporary, and the buildings are to be returned to the military authorities upon demand.

CAMP WALLACE, UNION.

This post is located on a peninsula near San Fernando, Union. On the departure of the headquarters, Thirteenth Cavalry, for the United States, April 15, 1905, the headquarters and band, Second Squadron, Second Cavalry, were transferred to Camp Stotsenburg, Pampanga. The Twelfth Company, Philippine Scouts, was relieved from duty at Camp Wallace, by General Orders, No. 87, these headquarters, November, 23, 1904, and ordered to Manila.

The present garrison is composed of the Third Squadron, Eighth Cavalry, which relieved the squadron of the Second Cavalry, under General Orders, No. 24, these headquarters, April 22, 1905.

This is the most northerly station now occupied by troops, and, in my opinion, a very important one. It has a fine target range, a very good drill ground, and is one of the healthiest sites in the department. It should have a steam launch similar in size and draft to the *Harrisburg*, in order that points across the bay and on the coast can be readily reached.

MALAHÍ ISLAND MILITARY PRISON AND POST.

The maintenance of this prison and post is no longer desired. It is recommended that a suitable site for a prison post be selected at some other point, and that, as soon as the requisite accommodations are available, the garrison and prison be moved. The quarry at Malahi Island, which has hitherto been worked for road metal for the post of Fort William McKinley, is now exhausted, so that the main reason for maintaining this station no longer applies.

On account of the overcrowding of the civil penitentiary at Bilibid, the division commander, by arrangement with the civil government, transferred about 150 prisoners, both civil and military, from Bilibid

to Malahi, where there was space enough for their accommodation and plenty of work for them in connection with the rock-crushing plant. As the quarry has given out, these prisoners can no longer be profitably employed at Malahi Island, and it is contemplated to return all, or nearly all, of them to Bilibid at an early date.

The disadvantages of Malahi Island as a military station are set forth in the last annual report.

REMAINING STATIONS.

One troop of cavalry is still occupying rented buildings in the town of Calamba. On account of the danger of surra at Los Baños it has not been found practicable to abandon this point as a station and move its garrison to Los Baños.

By the operation of General Orders, No. 16, Philippines Division, March 31, 1905, the First Brigade and post of Manila was discontinued April 15, 1905. The separate garrisons which had been administered from the post of Manila thereby became independent stations, as far as they remained. Some of these garrisons, however, had already been abandoned, viz: Luneta Barracks, January, 1905, its garrison, L and M, Seventh Infantry, going temporarily to Malate Barracks; Caloocan, January, 1905, under the operation of General Orders, No. 97, these headquarters, December 30, 1904; Malate Barracks, about April 15, 1905, under the operation of General Orders, No. 20, these headquarters, March 20, 1905. The site of Malate Barracks, though abandoned as a station for troops, has been reserved by the military authorities for other purposes.

Pasay garrison.—The last organization at this place, the Fifth Battery, Field Artillery, was ordered to Fort William McKinley by General Orders, No. 24, these headquarters, April 22, 1905. The remainder of the troops assigned to Pasay Barracks, viz, Third Squadron, Second Cavalry, are still in the field in Cavite Province. On their withdrawal Pasay Barracks will be abandoned as a military station.

Santa Mesa Barracks.—On the departure of the two troops of Third Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, which are under orders to proceed to the United States August 15, 1905, it is contemplated to abandon this station. Of the various garrisons composing the old First Brigade and post of Manila, there will remain, after the last of these changes, only two old Spanish cuartels—Cuartel de España, in the Walled City, and Curatel Meisic, in the quarter known as "Binondo." Cuartel de España is now occupied by headquarters and two companies Ninth Infantry, and Cuartel Meisic by two companies of the same regiment. The guard maintained in the valley of the Mariquina River, as a protection to the pumping station and water supply of the city of Manila, has been changed from time to time during the year. At the present time there is one company of the Seventh Infantry in this valley, the main body being at San Mateo and a small detachment at the pumping station.

STATIONS ABANDONED.

July, 1904. Mainan, Cavite; Buena Vista, Cavite; Mariveles, Bataan; Bacon, Sorsogon.

August, 1904. Bulan, Sorsogon; Sorsogon, Sorsogon; Polangui, Albay.

September, 1904. Bayuyangan, Batangas; Donsol, Sorsogon; Aliaga, Nueva Ecija.
 October, 1905. Tiaong, Tayabas; San Juan de Boc Boc, Batangas.
 December, 1904. Marangondon, Cavite; Aparri, Cagayan; Ternate, Cavite; Caloocan, Batangas.
 January, 1905. Norzagaray, Bulacan; Looc, Batangas; Caloocan, Rizal.
 March, 1905. Balyan, Batangas; Baliuag, Bulacan; Bay, Laguna; Bayuyangan, Batangas; Capolonga, Ambos Camarines; Meycauayan, Bulacan; Montalbon, Rizal; Peris, Tayabas; San Juan de Boc Boc, Batangas.
 April, 1905. Mariquina, Rizal; Silang, Cavite.
 May, 1905. Mariquina, Rizal; Alaminos, Laguna; Bagulo, Benguet; Mendez-Nunez, Cavite.

A number of these stations have been reoccupied by scout companies and detachments, as the necessity required, but those permanently abandoned are Aparri, Nueva Cáceres, Caloocan, Malate Barracks, Luneta Barracks, and Camp Morrison.

STAFF DEPARTMENTS.

Adjutant-general.—Maj. John R. Williams, from July 1, 1904, to September 3, 1904. Assistant adjutant-general of the department from September 3, 1904, to June 30, 1905. Maj. John F. Guilfoyle, from September 3, 1904, to June 30, 1905. (Designation changed to Military Secretary by paragraph 2, General Orders, No. 37, War Department, March 8, 1905.)

Judge-advocate.—Capt. Clarence S. Nettles, from July 1, 1904, to August 6, 1904. Maj. Frank L. Dodds, from August 6, 1904, to March 4, 1905. Maj. Walter A. Bethel, from March 4, 1905, to June 30, 1905.

Chief quartermaster.—Lieut. Col. Medad C. Martin, from July 1, 1904, to June 27, 1905. Maj. Daniel E. McCarthy, from June 27, 1905, to June 30, 1905.

Chief commissary.—Maj. Frank F. Eastman, from July 1, 1904, to August 8, 1904. Capt. Ralph Harrison, from August 8, 1904, to December 29, 1904. Capt. Frank A. Cook, from December 29, 1904, to January 21, 1905. Lieut. Col. William H. Baldwin, from January 21, 1905, to June 30, 1905.

Chief surgeon.—Lieut. Col. Edward T. Comegys, from July 1, 1904, to September 6, 1904. Col. John D. Hall, from September 6, 1904, to February 1, 1905. Lieut. Col. Daniel M. Appel, from February 1, 1905, to February 24, 1905. Lieut. Col. Edward T. Comegys, from February 24, 1905, to June 14, 1905. Capt. Christopher C. Collins, from June 14, 1905, to June 30, 1905.

Chief paymaster.—Lieut. Col. William F. Tucker, from April 4, 1905, to June 30, 1905.

Chief signal officer.—Capt. Walter L. Clarke, from July 1, 1904, to October 1, 1904. First Lieut. Otto B. Grimm, from October 1, 1904, to February 25, 1905. Capt. Charles B. Hepburn, from February 25, 1905, to March 14, 1905. First Lieut. Gordon Johnston (acting), from March 14, 1905, to April 28, 1905. Capt. Henry W. Stamford, from April 28, 1905, to June 30, 1905.

These officers have performed their duties during the past year in a highly satisfactory manner.

There is no officer of the Inspector-General's Department on duty at these headquarters under War Department assignment. Under the operation of paragraph 720, Regulations 1904, the services of an inspector may be dispensed with in many cases, but the amended paragraph (General Orders, No. 71, War Department, May 18 1905) throws the work of an inspector practically on the commanding officer who orders the survey in cases where property is destroyed.

There is a surveying officer detailed at these headquarters, to whom are referred for action a large number of cases arising in the various supply depots in this city, many of these surveys involving thousands of dollars' worth of property. All these surveys must come to the department commander for approval.

Under the new regulations the department commander must personally inspect all property recommended destroyed by the survey-

ing officer. The survey work at these headquarters now takes up all the time of the officer detailed, and it will take practically all the department commander's time, unless the surveying officer recommends in every case that the property be submitted to an inspector. It is easy to see how this works practically.

COMMISSARY DEPARTMENT.

The business of this department has been well conducted, with the exception of a few cases where supplies were delayed unnecessarily. This has been reported to the chief commissary of the division, who, it is believed, has taken the necessary steps to prevent recurrence.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

There has been marked improvement over former years in medical and surgical conditions in this department, owing to various reasons, but chiefly to the excellent work of post surgeons in exterminating mosquitos, and improved facilities for procuring ice and fresh vegetables. I wish to call attention to the following extract from the report of the chief surgeon of this department, in which I concur:

Venereal diseases.—Venereal diseases still constitute a pregnant source of admission to sick report, although representing a smaller percentage than for previous years. The bimonthly venereal inspection, with a consequent segregation of active cases, is doubtless of considerable value in limiting the infection, but is nevertheless powerless to prevent. It is believed that a cooperation of the civil authorities looking toward a medical supervision of known or suspected sources of contagion would be helpful in combating this baneful condition.

I also concur in the chief surgeon's recommendation that the building formerly used as a general hospital at Los Baños be repaired and that a department hospital be established at this place.

JUDGE-ADVOCATE'S DEPARTMENT.

During the year three commissioned officers were tried and all acquitted.

There were 491 trials of enlisted men by general court-martial, resulting in 437 convictions, of which 3 were disapproved, and 51 acquitted. Number of men dishonorably discharged, 189. There were 33 trials by garrison courts, resulting in 25 convictions, of which 1 was disapproved, and 8 acquitted. There were 5,915 trials by summary courts, resulting in 5,791 convictions, of which the sentence was disapproved in 16 cases, and 124 acquitted.

In this connection I desire to call attention to the annual report for 1904 of my predecessor and to concur in his remarks concerning the importance and desirability of having suitable amusement rooms and gymnasiums provided at every post. I believe they would lessen the number of trials resulting from the intemperate use of intoxicants.

TARGET PRACTICE.

Fifty-five companies in the department fired the full course with rifle or carbine, with the result of 55 expert riflemen, 256 sharpshooters, and 273 marksmen. A very creditable showing. At the division

infantry competition, 12 of the 27 medals were won by men from this department, the highest score, 809, being made by Sergt. Thomas Hinton, Company I, Third Battalion of Engineers. At the division carbine and pistol competition half the numbers of each team was composed of men from this department, and scores were equal to those made in the similar army competition.

PAY DEPARTMENT.

The business of this department has been conducted in a highly satisfactory manner, the officers as a whole being accurate, energetic, and obliging. The present system works smoothly and is efficient.

SIGNAL CORPS.

There are now operated by the Signal Corps approximately 1,220 miles of land and 471 miles of cable lines. A great deal of reconstruction work has been done, and the results obtained have been very satisfactory.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

The affairs of this department appear to have been well conducted during the year. I invite attention to the following extract from the chief quartermaster's report, in which I concur:

The contemplated exchange of clerks between the United States and these islands does not seem to have materialized to any great extent so far as the Quartermaster's Department is concerned, and it is not believed that it will be either practicable or for the interests of the service that these instructions be carried into effect. The old men of the Quartermaster's Department in the United States, who have given the best years of their lives to that service and who have families, and in many instances acquired homes for same, should not, it seems to me, be compelled to break up their homes or leave their families for three years in order to come to these islands under entirely different environments from those to which they are used, and their limited salaries will not suffice for maintaining their families here. In addition thereto, the transport service, already burdened to its fullest extent, will be unable to afford decent accommodations for those clerks and their families should they be under orders compelled to either quit the service or come here for duty. It is a serious question also as to whether the majority of these elderly men would be able to stand the climate or to render efficient service under circumstances which are entirely new and experimental with them. I believe it would be in the interest of the service to form a group of all the classified employees now in these islands and willing to remain here to create an insular service; to allow the men who are now here, fully acquainted with their duties and able to withstand the climate, to remain here as long as they desire and their services are satisfactory, and to allow only such of the clerks now in the United States as are young and robust, without large incumbrances, to come here in exchange with those men who desire to return to the United States.

MILITARY RESERVATIONS.

It is understood that the sites occupied by the Estado Mayor (now department headquarters), Malate Barracks, and Cuartel Meisic have been declared military reservations by the President.

The work of caring for the numerous casuals in this department, including at times many discharged civilian employees, falls upon the two stations of Cuartel de España and Cuartel Meisic, in the city

of Manila. One station alone has not the accommodations for handling the large number sent home monthly and taking care in addition of all the other classes of casuats. For this and other reasons it is thought that Cuartel de España should also be set aside as a military reservation.

NATIVE SCOUTS.

Of the 31 companies of native scouts serving in this department this date, 22 are under orders of the chief, Philippines Constabulary, for "tactical purposes only." (General Orders, No. 13, Division of the Philippines, February 20, 1903.) The operation of General Orders, No. 99, War Department, June 9, 1904, has practically abolished the slender control exercised previously by the department commander over these companies.

Of the scout battalions organized by General Orders, No. 32, War Department, February 28, 1905, the following are serving in this department:

Second Battalion: Maj. S. M. Kochersperger, Twelfth, Fourteenth, Twenty-sixth, and Twenty-eighth companies.

Third battalion: Maj. George B. Duncan, Thirteenth, Twenty-second, Twenty-ninth, and Forty-fifth companies.

Fifth Battalion: Maj. S. D. Rockenbach, Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Twenty-first, and Twenty-third companies.

Seventh Battalion: Maj. R. W. Mearns, Eleventh, Seventeenth, Thirty-first, and Thirty-second companies.

The Second Battalion is the only one that is serving as a unit and that is entirely under the orders of the department commander. It is a well-disciplined and efficient body of troops. The whole battalion is now on duty as a guard for civil prisoners at work on the Tobacco-Albay road. Unless the other battalions can be concentrated for discipline and instruction the best results can hardly be obtained from scout battalions.

PUBLIC ORDER.

Under instructions from division commander, a force of American troops was sent to Cavite Province to cooperate with the Philippines Constabulary in the maintenance of public order. The Third Squadron, Second Cavalry, from Pasay Barracks, and the First Battalion, Seventh Infantry, from Cuartel Meisic, the latter under the command of Maj. Walter K. Wright, were ordered to Imus, Cavite, on January 26 and 27, respectively, 1905, to assist in the capture of or dispersal of a number of bands of ladrones which had infested that province for several years and had caused great annoyance and suffering to the inhabitants. The whole force in the field was under the command of Maj. Frederick W. Sibley, Second Cavalry.

This work was well and successfully done by Major Sibley, in conjunction with Col. D. J. Baker, jr., assistant chief, Philippines Constabulary, and there now remain uncaptured but two leaders, Felizardo and Montalon, the former with but two rifles and the latter with seven. These men are now in hiding, but the secret service department of the Philippines Constabulary is on their trail, and it is believed that they will soon be taken.

Major Sibley and his officers and men, both infantry and cavalry,

are entitled to a great deal of credit for the energy and persistence shown by them, which resulted in the killing of 17 ladrones and the capture of 131 ladrones and 112 rifles.

Troop G, Twelfth Cavalry, at Calamba, Laguna Province, assisted the constabulary and native police in an engagement with Oruga's band of nine outlaws April 24, 1905, about 3 miles west of Calamba. The outlaws fled, leaving one man prisoner and two guns, about 100 rounds of ammunition, and all their baggage and cooking outfit.

There has been no other active field service in this department during the year.

MILITARY SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

The clerical work of this office has been and continues to be very arduous and heavy. The main portion of the work in this office falls upon a few civilian clerks, who work intelligently and faithfully, but the number is so small that the burden is very hard; in fact, too severe for the climate. This necessitates the detail of soldiers to assist, and while they are as a rule faithful and willing, it can hardly be expected that the work will be equal to that performed by those better paid. In this connection it is recommended that soldiers detailed for this particular kind of work should receive some extra money consideration. With the exception of one civilian transferred to this department near the close of the year, the clerical force has been efficient, cheerfully willing, sober, and punctual.

Very respectfully,

W. S. EDGERLY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

THE MILITARY SECRETARY,
Washington, D. C.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE VISAYAS.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE VISAYAS.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE VISAYAS,
Iloilo, Panay, P. I., July 1, 1905.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following annual report for the Department of the Visayas for the period ending June 30, 1905:

The limits of the department have remained without change during the year, but owing to almost continuous petty disorder a large number of stations previously abandoned have been reoccupied. This has been accomplished by detaching troops from the semipermanent posts and the employment of companies of scouts sent to the department from the Department of Luzon. While the new stations are merely bases for field operations, it has been found necessary to erect temporary shelter of native materials to insure the health of the troops and with a view to economy in the use of tents, which last but a short time during the rainy season.

CURRENT EVENTS AND EMPLOYMENT OF THE MILITARY FORCES.

Within a few days after the rendition of the annual report for last year a serious outbreak occurred in the Gandara Valley, Samar. This was followed by disorders in all the other large islands of the department, Negros, Panay, Cebu, and Leyte. The ordinary ladrone element, reenforced to some extent from the idle and criminal classes, was responsible for the troubles in the last-named islands. The constabulary forces have been able to hold the ladrone bands in check without assistance of the Army except in Samar and Cebu.

The outbreak in Samar began on July 21, 1904. The constabulary officer who had just taken charge of the district acted with great promptness and took the field in person with several small detachments hastily gathered together from other islands. During the ensuing five months the constabulary force in Samar was reenforced by companies of Philippine Scouts, aggregating about 700 men. Many skirmishes occurred, the results of which tended rather to increase the prestige of the Pulajanes and enabled their fanatical leaders to draw many ignorant people to their cause. During the period mentioned the disorder extended across to the east coast, where several towns were destroyed and many barrios deserted, the inhabitants joining the Pulajanes or fleeing to the mountains.

During the early part of the campaign one company of scouts, which occupied a station on the east coast, not in supporting distance of other troops, had four fights within thirty days and suffered a loss in two of the actions of 1 American officer, 2 hospital corps men, and 45 native scouts killed and 5 wounded, and 5 volunteers killed.

The serious nature of these reverses was not wholly in the losses of men, but in the loss of arms and ammunition, of which the Pulajanes were in great need. The remnant of the company was withdrawn, reorganized, and very recently, with a company of regulars, participated with great credit in the most serious and successful fight of the campaign.

The scout companies and constabulary detachments, withdrawn from other islands and sent to Samar, gradually raised the combined force of native troops to about 1,700 or 1,800 men, but the results of the first half year's campaigning were not wholly reassuring. The constabulary had gradually become involved in field operations with native troops equal to a small brigade in numbers. This in one of the largest and most sparsely populated islands in the archipelago, and which is without a single road or practicable trail for pack animals. For such a campaign the constabulary organization was unprepared by reason of lack of staff and supply departments, a deficiency which could not be remedied by expedients. The insufficient means of communication with the east coast constituted a very embarrassing factor throughout the period of operations.

Scouting with an insufficient force for an elusive and half-savage enemy, through virgin forests and dense jungles; wading in water courses and tortured with leeches, and dependent upon native carriers of doubtful loyalty, it is not to be wondered at that the campaign has been long and unproductive of brilliant actions. To add to the difficulties, the enlistments of both scouts and constabulary began to expire at the height of the campaign. This, with the losses in action, combined to disorganize operations and fill the ranks with recruits, many of whom had never fired a gun. The enemy had cause for elation in the success with which they had frequently met detachments of native troops and the facility with which they had escaped whenever the tide turned against them during more than five months of campaigning.

Whatever may have been the original cause of the outbreak, it was soon lost sight of when success had drawn a large proportion of the people away from their homes and fields. The lawless bands simply degenerated into opposition to all control and carried on a reign of terror throughout a large portion of the island. Except in the largest towns it became simply a question of joining the Pulajanes or being harried by them. In the absence of proper protection thousands joined in the movement to the extent of rendering aid both by furnishing food and giving information of all movements of troops. This led to ambushing detachments and forced the sending of much larger columns of native troops than had previously been necessary. The movement has not found any permanent lodgment in the southern part of the island, nor has the northwestern part been seriously involved to the present time.

The situation gradually got beyond the control of the constabulary and scout forces, and in order to free them from garrison work in the towns 16 companies of the Twelfth and Fourteenth Infantry were distributed about the disaffected coasts to enable the people who so desired to come from their hiding places and undertake the rebuilding of their burned homes. The following instructions of the division

commander to the department commander governed the troops ordered to various points in Samar:

These troops will be in the nature of a supporting force to the native troops that, under the direction of the civil governor, are engaged in subduing the hostile Pulajanes. It will be the special duty of these companies to protect loyal natives in the neighborhood of their respective camps, encouraging the people to build homes and resume their accustomed vocations. Let them understand that you are in full accord with the operations being prosecuted against the hostiles, and that it is our purpose to aid in the work in every way possible and at the same time give all protection to orderly and well-behaved people; and let them understand further that if need be this is only the beginning of our work; that it will be followed to any extent that the misbehavior of the people may make necessary. Our troops will not, unless otherwise ordered by me, take an aggressive part in the campaign. They will, however, be instructed to repel an attack made upon them by the hostiles, and not only to repel but to follow and administer punishment to the limit of their ability to do so. This instruction applies not only to actual, but to threatened attacks. You will keep in touch with the commanding officer of the native troops, and have these companies give him all possible aid, especially in caring for his sick and wounded. The immediate command of these troops will remain with you. A copy of these instructions will be provided the commanding officer of each company for his information and guidance in addition to such special instructions as you may deem necessary to give them within the lines herein indicated.

Under the protection of the troops much progress was made, but there still remained the unsatisfactory condition that the people feared to engage in any profitable occupation out of sight of the villages for fear of the ubiquitous Pulajanes.

Under later authority of the division commander the regular troops were directed to cooperate with the constabulary forces whenever requested by the chief of constabulary. Several expeditions were made, but contact with the main body of the enemy was not had, owing to lack of information and to the fact that all the natives of the interior appeared to be friendly to the Pulajanes and acted as outposts for them.

The effort to use the army to assist the constabulary to preserve order without formally authorizing the troops to assume active and independent operations under military control was not productive of the most efficient and economical results. The drain upon the insular treasury was growing to considerable proportions and the end of the campaign was not in sight after nine months of constant and severe field service.

During the month of May the necessary authority for troops to aid in quelling the disorder, acting under the direction of the department commander, was received. Immediate steps were taken to put a number of strong detachments, each comprised of half a company of American and half a company of native troops, in the field, and arrangements were made so that upon the return of a detachment to its base station another detachment should be ready to start immediately.

During the progress of the campaign with native troops the Pulajanes had developed a systematic method of attack, which consisted in placing bolomen in ambush in high grass (Cogon) on both sides of a trail, and when a column got between them another squad of Pulajanes armed with rifles would open fire from the front. During the confusion of deploying to the front the two lines of bolomen would rush upon the flanks. This mode of attack proved so successful that

it became necessary to provide for it. A special drill was devised which did away with advance guard and flankers, the detachments marching in column of files well closed and numbered alternately one and two from front to rear. At the first sign of an enemy all the numbers one faced to the right and the numbers two to the left and opened fire into the moving grass whether the enemy could be seen or not. When the flank attack was repelled rapid fire to the front was taken up by those at the head of the column. The first attack of this kind on American troops, a company of the Twenty-first Infantry, resulted in a loss of 9 of the Pulajanes killed and 12 wounded, 4 of whom subsequently died, and without any loss to the troops.

Under an agreement approved by the governor-general and division commander the army has special charge of the eastern half of the island, but with authority to operate wherever the Pulajanes may be found.

The theory upon which the operations are now being conducted is being made known to all inhabitants of Samar who come in contact with the troops. The explanations by commanding officers are intended to teach the people that civil government is not suspended; that all who are not guilty of serious crimes may and should without delay resume their avocations in their former villages; that all who are in arms, together with those who assist them with food or by furnishing information of the movements of troops, will be pursued until killed or captured, if possible.

Within ten days after the army was called upon to act, under the orders of the department commander, important captures were effected and information secured as to the location of the camp of the real leader of the Pulajan movement, Col. Enrique Daguhob. By education, native talent, and cunning this leader had acquired control of all the people of a large district and had succeeded in eluding the Government forces for nearly a year, except when he planned attacks or ambush. He had assembled as his immediate following about 50 riflemen and an average of two to four hundred bolomen. Captured papers written by him constantly bore the heading which gave the title of the Pulajan forces as "The army of cazadores (hunters, or mountain men) of Leyte and Samar."

As soon as the information came into the hands of Maj. H. A. Leonhreuser, Twenty-first Infantry, commanding the troops in the Catubig Valley, a detachment of 80 men of E Company, Twenty-first Infantry, and the Thirty-eighth Company Philippine Scouts, was organized under the command of Capt. Cromwell Stacey, Twenty-first Infantry, Capt. W. W. Taylor, jr., Philippine Scouts, commanding the scouts. The detachment was accompanied by Third Lieut. Juan Sulse, Philippines Constabulary, as a volunteer, and 5 native guides. The patience, care, and success with which this expedition was conducted reflect the greatest credit upon Captain Stacey and all the officers and men who accompanied him. The outposts were all avoided, and the approach so well planned that the troops arrived within about 150 yards of the Pulajan camp without being discovered. Although largely outnumbered, Captain Stacey, trusting to the effect of complete surprise, led his command, much reduced by the baggage guard, at once to the charge. With fixed bayonets the regular in-

fantry led the way into the center of the camp and engaged in a hand to hand conflict with a largely superior force. The fight lasted about thirty minutes, when Colonel Daguhob and several of his principal officers and a large number of men having been killed and wounded, the remainder fled into the jungle, from where firing was continued a short time. Forty-one Pulajan officers and soldiers were counted dead in the camp, and the bloody trails leading into the underbrush and jungle indicated a large number of wounded. A party subsequently sent to the site of Captain Stacey's fight to search the jungle for arms, found 53 bodies in the brush in addition to those counted by Captain Stacey, making a total of 94 killed.

The completeness of the surprise, and the gallantry with which the troops made the attack on the best organized and equipped forces of the Pulajanes, had an immediate effect upon the whole region in the way of surrenders. Large numbers of people who had been away from their villages for nearly a year began presenting themselves immediately after the fight. The civil governor of Samar was notified of these facts and took immediate steps to provide rice for these ignorant and homeless people until such time as they may be able to arrange to procure their own food. The leaders and those who are known criminals are the only ones whom it is worth while to hold, and all of these two classes are turned over, upon capture, to the civil authorities.

There have been a large number of expeditions during the year. The scouts operated under the orders of the chief of constabulary until the department commander was directed to assume control, when the companies were relieved from duty under the civil government.

The following is a list of encounters with the enemy, and casualties resulting therefrom:

List of actions, engagements, etc., between pulafanes and United States troops from July 1, 1904, to June 30, 1905.

Date.	Place.	Troops engaged.	Casualties to troops.	Enemy's loss.
1904.				
Aug. 21	Near Bulao, Samar	1 officer, 40 men, Thirty-fifth Company, Philippine Scouts.	None	2 killed.
Aug. 23-29	Scouting from Camp Hartshorne to Gandara, Samar.	1 officer, 40 men, Thirty-ninth Company, Philippine Scouts.	do	38 killed, wounded many more, captured 11 prisoners.
Sept. 1	Calangan, Samar.	Detachment Thirty-seventh Company, Philippine Scouts.	1 sergeant Hospital Corps mortally wounded, 2 scouts killed and 2 wounded.	10 killed, considerable number wounded.
Sept. 5	Near Catubig, Samar	Detachment Thirty-ninth Company, Philippine Scouts.	1 scout wounded.	74 killed.
Sept. 6	Near Demagauga, Samar.	do	1 hospital corps private and 2 scouts killed, 4 scouts wounded.	15 killed.
Sept. 24	do	do	do	1 killed, 2 captured.
Oct. 17	Near Hipapad, Samar	Detachment Thirty-eighth Company, Philippine Scouts.	1 hospital corps man and 12 scouts killed, 5 scouts wounded.	1 killed. Number killed and wounded unknown, thought large.
Nov. 10	Oras, Samar.	Detachment Eighteenth Company, Philippine Scouts.	None	4 killed, 1 wounded, 47 captured.
Dec. 1-6	Vicinity of Tarangnan, Samar.	Detachment Thirty-eighth Company, Philippine Scouts.	do	16 killed.
Dec. 4	Near Taft, Samar.	do	do	52 killed, wounded large number.
Dec. 7	do	do	do	5 killed.
Dec. 10	Near Gumay, Samar	Detachment Thirty-ninth Company, Philippine Scouts.	do	15 killed.
Dec. 12	San Eduardo, Samar	Detachment Thirty-eighth Company, Philippine Scouts.	do	3 killed; 23 captured.
Dec. 13-25	Headwaters of Catubig River, Samar.	Detachments of Eighteenth and Thirty-fifth Companies, Philippine Scouts.	do	Not known.
Dec. 16	Dolores, Samar	Detachment Thirty-eighth Company, Philippine Scouts.	Lieutenant Hayt, 1 private Hospital Corps, and 37 scouts killed.	None reported.
1905.				
Jan. 2	Baroa, Samar	Platoon Thirty-fifth Company, Philippine Scouts.	None	1 killed; 1 wounded.
Jan. 3	Oras, Samar.	Fifth Company, Philippine Scouts.	do	Do.
Jan. 6, 7	Between Gandara and San Pelayo, Samar	Detachment Thirty-fifth Company, Philippine Scouts.	do	38 killed; wounded unknown.
Jan. 8	On Dolores River, Samar.	Detachment Thirty-seventh Company, Philippine Scouts.	One private Hospital Corps wounded. Lieutenant Avery mortally wounded; 1 scout mortally wounded.	
Jan. 10	do	do	None	Wounded several.
Jan. 23	Between Oras and Bantayan, Samar.	Detachment Fifth Company, Philippine Scouts.	do	2 killed.
Feb. 1	Seven miles outside Oras, Samar.	do	do	

Feb. 2	Between Gandara and San Jose de Buan, Samar.	Three officers and 101 men of Eighteenth and Thirty-fifth Companies, Philippine Scouts.	do	Do.
Feb. 3	San Jose de Buan, Samar	3 officers and 101 men of Eighteenth and Thirty-fifth Companies, Philippine Scouts.	Lieutenant Gustin and 6 scouts wounded (1 mortally).	30 killed; about same number wounded.
Feb. 18	Maslog, Samar.	Fifth and Thirty-seventh Companies, Philippine Scouts.	2 scouts Fifth Company killed and 1 wounded.	Between 20 and 25 killed and wounded.
Feb. 28	Caggamotan, Samar	Detachments Thirty-fifth and First Companies, Philippine Scouts (also constabulary).	None.	12 killed; several wounded.
Mar. 7-10	Near San Jose de Buan, Samar.	Eighteenth Company, Philippine Scouts.	do	2 killed; wounded unknown.
Mar. 21	Bongon, Samar	Detachment Thirty-ninth Company, Philippine Scouts (also constabulary).	3 scouts missing in action (all undoubtedly killed).	Not reported.
Apr. 21	Sagod, Samar.	Detachments of Thirty-ninth Philippine Scouts and Company C, Twenty-first Infantry.	None	Do.
Apr. 28	In Arragon Valley, Samar	Detachments of Fifth and Thirty-seventh Companies, Philippine Scouts.	do	Captured outpost of 4 men.
May 5	Hapunan, Samar	Detachment Company G, Twenty-first Infantry.	do	9 killed, 12 wounded (4 mortally).
May 7	Near San Vicente, Samar.	Thirty-eighth Company, Philippine Scouts (also constabulary).	do	Encountered and dispersed small band; no losses reported.
May 11-13	While scouting in Jecontol Valley, Samar.	Detachment Thirty-seventh Company, Philippine Scouts.	do	1 killed.
May 14-19	Near Bongon, Samar. (While on a scout.)	Thirty-ninth Company, Philippine Scouts.	do	2 killed.
May 31	Hitapian, near Catubig, Samar.	Detachments Company M, Twenty-first Infantry, and Forty-sixth Company, Philippine Scouts.	do	1 captain killed; wounded several.
June 4	15 miles southeast of Catubig and 12 miles south of San Vicente, Samar.	Detachments of Company E, Twenty-first Infantry, and Thirty-eighth Company, Philippine Scouts.	2 privates Company E, Twenty-first Infantry, wounded. 1 guide killed.	Killed Colonel Daguhob, the principal leader, 1 major, 2 captains, and 80 pulajan soldiers, and took 6 prisoners.
June 8	Sagod, on Catubig River, Samar.	Detachments of Company G, Twenty-first Infantry, and Thirty-ninth Company, Philippine Scouts.	None.	Killed Major Belarnee, military secretary under Daguhob.
About June 17.	Near Paponton, Samar	Detachments of Company K, Twenty-first Infantry, and Thirty-fifth Company, Philippine Scouts.	do	Captured Maj. Felipe de la Cruz.

The result of recent operations, and especially the death of Daguhob, has been to cause a breaking off of several thousands of natives in northern and eastern Samar, many of whom had been actively engaged in Pulajanism, and others through fear had given support to the outlaws. Those who have presented themselves at the various stations have been established in temporary camps until it is safe to return them to their former villages. The most needy are assisted, and those able to work are allowed passes to go out for food and hemp, which is their main article of trade. A strict reconcentration would produce much suffering and would bring about no good results at this stage of affairs. The end is not in sight, for the repulses in northern and eastern Samar have resulted in the transfer of Pulajan operations to the southwest coast. There are some leaders and many of their followers who will not surrender as long as they can manage to move about from one part of the island to another. These men have nearly all been guilty of arson, torture, and murder. Preparations have been made to press the campaign regardless of the rainy season, with a view to forcing all organized bands to disperse. Once broken up, it becomes possible, through the aid of friendly natives, to locate individuals and guns, but the recovery of arms may be expected only after patient and laborious work.

A year ago, when the first outbreak occurred in the Gandara Valley, it appeared on the surface to have been purely the result of dissatisfaction of native hemp workers with the agents of the large foreign commercial houses, which practically control the market. This cause of dissatisfaction exists now, and always will exist so long as the presidentes, who are in control of the only form of government with which the poorer natives come in contact, continue to serve as business agents of firms whose interests lie in securing hemp at the lowest possible price and selling rice at a correspondingly exorbitant figure. There is no relief for this except with the gradual development of the islands, which will increase transportation facilities and bring about competition. These conditions have for years been the cause of bad feeling amongst the natives, and a criminal element is always in waiting to take advantage of isolated situations and lead on disorder, just as walking delegates and strike leaders do in more civilized communities, and with the same species of cruelty to those who wish to continue work instead of joining the law breakers.

Daguhob claimed supernatural powers identical with those claimed by the medicine men who brought about the ghost dancers' craze which affected nearly all the Indians of the plains in 1890-91, though many of them had been under civilizing influences for several generations. It is very comforting to the mind of an ignorant native to be told that he can not be killed, and that even if he appears to have succumbed Daguhob, or Papa Pablo, will restore him to life within three days. The people of northern Samar appear to have believed all this implicitly until a couple of Krag bullets removed Daguhob from the field of action, when they began presenting themselves to the authorities by hundreds.

The Pulajan insurrection is absolutely without any political significance whatever. In fact one of the most notorious of all the leaders, Otoy, sent many of his soldiers back to work as soon as the army appeared in the locality and stated that he had no fight with the

Americans, but was only after his enemies in the coast towns, some of whom he has very recently butchered and burned in the most heartless fashion.

The Pulajan leader, like the ladrone chief of other islands, does not lose caste, but becomes in some instances a demigod to the densely ignorant mountain natives. His trade will only cease to be profitable when Samar has been developed to such an extent that some form of public opinion may be created in favor of peace and order. Public opinion as understood in the United States, and which makes it odious to shield and secrete criminals, does not exist to any great extent in Samar.

Notwithstanding all this Samar is worth saving. It is an island of wonderful resources and would easily absorb and support many times its present population. There are many beautiful valleys which will produce rice and probably sugar, while the highest grade of hemp grows in all the foothills. The value of copra grown about the island is enormous. The Catubig Valley and the many small valleys debouching in it will furnish homes for a hundred thousand people from other islands whenever they become overcrowded. In fact it would be a wise policy to begin the settlement of colonies of natives in Samar in the near future to assist in its development, and in this way help to end the disorder.

COOPERATION OF THE NAVY.

The admiral of the fleet very kindly placed at the disposal of the department commander five gunboats and two launches, all under Lieut. Commander Hugh Rodman, U. S. Navy. The moral effect of the presence of these vessels about the island of Samar has been very great and their services in moving troops to exposed points and in standing by several towns threatened with burning until troops could be brought in has been the kind of assistance which counts for much. The cordial cooperation of the younger generation of the army and navy on this service makes a good foundation for harmony and success in larger operations.

MILITARY RESERVATIONS.

The question of titles and payment of rents for private lands included in reservations was referred to in my last annual report. The grave difficulties then apparent have been further increased and the army is now being put in the light of acting falsely and unfairly by claimants to land, whereas, as a matter of fact, it is the earnest desire of all commanding officers and quartermasters to deal with the poorer natives with the utmost frankness and fairness.

By the treaty of Paris all lands in the islands, title to which had not been acquired in due course by individuals in pursuance of the laws and royal decrees of Spain, passed to and became vested in the Government of the United States. The claimants to many small parcels of land embraced in the military reservations within the department were able to show in court that they and their forbears had been in open and peaceful possession of their respective holdings for long periods of time, in some cases as much as a hundred years, but not in a single instance had they complied with the laws

and royal decrees of Spain, under which, prior to the treaty of Paris, they might have acquired legal title. The only rights of the squatters, other than those of equity, arise from prescriptive titles which are held by the supreme court of the Philippine Islands as of no value against the Government itself.

In many instances contracts, in the nature of leases, were entered into with claimants prior to their removal from the reservations and pending ascertainment of the legal status of their alleged titles. Under existing conditions it is manifest that accountable officers of the quartermaster's department can not pay out public money for rentals or purchase pending final adjudication of these cases, which, from present indications, will be adverse to the claimants. While the Government is acting entirely within its legal rights, the existing status bears with peculiar hardship upon a very poor class of natives, and if protection can not be afforded by the War Department it is recommended that the matter be laid before Congress for such remedial action as may be necessary to authorize the payment of the various small amounts due to former occupants of military reservations in the Philippine Islands.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

The prolonged drought in the Visayan Islands, during a period of about six months, proved a very severe tax on the water supply at every post in the department, but especially at Camp Connell, Samar. The small rainfall was unprecedented in Samar. The supply from surface wells ran so low that it became necessary to send a steam water barge, which was towed back and forth from the falls of the Mauo River, about 30 miles northwest of Camp Connell. An artesian well is now being bored, but the prospects are not favorable for obtaining water with the small machine in use. Efforts are now being made to increase the supply from surface wells, and, except in years of drought, it is believed that a sufficient quantity can be had. Drinking water is distilled or sterilized at all shelter posts and boiled at all camps from the best available local supply.

BARRACKS AND QUARTERS.

At the close of the last year all the troops were provided with shelter barracks, but many of these, as well as officers' quarters, were patchwork buildings, composed partly of American lumber and partly of native material, used because of nonarrival of lumber. Improvements have been made gradually, the substitution for native material being made only as it becomes unserviceable. The roofing used consists in the main of rubberoid or asbestos, both being patent prepared-paper material of comparatively short life at best. The use of these paper roofings was adopted as an economical measure, but as time goes on the mistake becomes more apparent. Roofs in this climate are exposed to much heat, as well as rainfall, causing a continuous erosive effect. Nearly all the roofs have been improved in appearance and durability by painting with a mixture of red oxide and linseed oil. While frequent painting will check leaks and prolong the usefulness of the roofs, they will eventually have to be replaced with

galvanized iron, which tropical experience has caused to be the generally adopted material by all those who build permanently in the islands.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The health of the command has been, generally speaking, excellent. The most prevalent diseases have been malarial fevers, venereal diseases, dysentery, dengue, and diarrhea. Malarial fever has been particularly prevalent at Camp Jossman, Guimaras, which is the only shelter post constructed inland. This accords with experience of those long in the islands, that fevers are less prevalent on the coast than in the hills. Of the 86 deaths occurring in the command of nearly 4,000 men, 61 were killed in action, 4 occurred through accidental gunshot wounds, 4 by drowning, and the remaining 17 were due to a variety of causes, only one being from typhoid fever, notwithstanding the drought and serious difficulty of maintaining a supply of potable water.

The quality and variety of food furnished has been generally excellent throughout the year. The care bestowed upon requisitions, both in the preparation and filling, has reduced losses to a minimum and practically eliminated complaints.

Complaints continue against the quality of khaki uniforms and the russet shoes, which are issued from the old stock accumulated, apparently, during the war with Spain. This is a hardship on the men, for during the operations in Samar it has been shown that a pair of shoes will not last over ten days on the Pulajan trails, which run alternately in the beds of streams and over lava-covered hillsides. No shoe would stand such wear very long, but a week or ten days' use is too short a life for foot gear charged against a soldier's clothing account.

The discipline of the command averages about the same as heretofore. The number of serious offenses is not proportionately large. On the other hand, the large number of summary court trials gives the impression that many officers rely too exclusively upon the summary court officers to discipline their organizations. Where an organization is held well in hand and treated fairly and firmly, the number of trials is usually much smaller than in one where a fast-and-loose method of discipline exists. A personal study of character by company commanders and the application of judgment based thereon will create a company pride which generally enables the better element to obtain influence and control about the barracks. The police-court method of preserving discipline, when carried to excess, has a belittling effect on soldiers.

Payments have been made monthly with the exception of the month of May, when a part of the command was not paid by reason of all the water transportation being engaged in conveying troops for field operations in Samar.

Telegraphic service has been recently improved by the establishment of offices in several posts which have heretofore had to maintain a system of mounted orderlies to connect with the military telegraph offices in adjacent towns. The extreme isolation of many stations in the department is a real hardship on signal corps men. It has been difficult in the past to work out a reasonable and satisfactory system

of reliefs, and the result has been unfortunate in several cases. The telephone systems at the several posts have been very useful in the economical transaction of public business. Especially is the saving of orderly work in post administration to be commended.

The clerical work of department headquarters has materially increased during the year owing to constant field operations and an increase in the total number of organizations and stations. The accomplishment of public business and the proper keeping of the records has been made possible by the diligent and unselfish spirit with which the clerical force has worked at all times.

An effort was made to collect useful data regarding the post-exchange system, but owing to the breaking up of the garrisons at every post in the department, due to changes of station and continuous field service, any report upon the subject at this time would be based on abnormal conditions, and valueless.

At the commencement of the last fiscal year the current running expenses of the department had been computed on a most economical basis. The outbreaks of disorder in several islands and the necessity of transferring troops to various other islands to care for public property during changes of stations of regiments materially increased the cost of administration. The cost of military operations in Samar is very great because every pound of supplies has to be carried on the backs of native cargadores. The old Spanish custom was to call upon presidentes of towns to furnish cargadores for the public service, and this custom was, until recently, still in vogue with the native organizations engaged in military operations in the department. This custom appeared to contain so many elements of injustice that an order has been issued forbidding it and requiring all services to be paid for at a small but fixed rate of wages. In my opinion this has had much to do with the contentment shown since by the natives living near temporary military stations and camps. The payments for services are further required to be made to each laborer in person to prevent a percentage being demanded by village officials.

The conduct of officers and men in the field has been characterized by a military spirit worthy of the best army standards and traditions. They have given encouragement and protection to thousands of natives of the coast villages of Samar, who for a year past have been harried and scourged by Pulajanes.

The close of the fiscal year finds nearly all the troops engaged in field service or held in readiness to take part. The lesson of the past twelve months' campaign is very plain and indicates that in the interest of good order and economical administration all the forces of the government—the civil, the Army, and the Navy—should be combined to crush marauding bands of outlaws at the start before they have had time to overawe and oppress the industrious natives and force them to contribute to lawlessness.

Very respectfully,

WM. H. CARTER,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

The MILITARY SECRETARY,
Philippines Division, Manila, P. I.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF MINDANAO.

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REPORT DEPARTMENT OF MINDANAO.

JUNE 30, 1905.

SIR: The following annual report for the Department of Mindanao for the year ending June 30, 1905, is respectfully submitted:

THE GENERAL SITUATION.

Conditions in all which pertain to public order and the observance of law have greatly improved during the past year, and many people never before reached have been brought under the influence of the Government. There have been no disturbances among the Christian Philippine population requiring the use of troops. This portion of the population has been orderly and quiet. Conditions among the Moros have greatly improved. Slave catching, dealing and holding have practically ceased, and observance of the instructions of the duly constituted authorities has become the rule rather than the exception. Occasionally there have been fanatical attempts to cause an uprising; these have been promptly suppressed and the authors severely punished in every instance. It is regretted that the operations necessary to this end have resulted in the death of some excellent officers and men, killed in the performance of duty, and a very considerable loss among the Moros. At present officials of the Government can go without an escort, where it formerly required an extremely strong one. With the exception of a few Moro districts, travel is safe in all portions of the department, and even in these questionable districts there is little danger, even to small parties. Many Moro cannon and arms have been taken and destroyed or turned in.

Dato Ali is in hiding with a small following somewhere in the interior of the island of Mindanao, east of Lake Liguasan. He has been quiet and has committed no hostile act since last October, and his people to the number of fifteen to twenty thousand have come in, settled along the Rio Grande, and gone to work. Conditions among the remaining non-Christians have continued favorable, and great progress has been made in establishing friendly relations with them and in putting into operation a simple system of control through their headmen. The Moro outbreaks are largely due to the actions of fanatical Arab priests, of a class which is a disturbing element throughout the East. These difficulties and disturbances are growing less frequent and less dangerous, as, in every instance, failure and heavy losses to the Moros have been the result, and, while occasional troubles may be expected, they will occur less and less frequently, and will be easily handled.

The most recent difficulty was incident to the capture of a pirate named Pala, who was formerly a follower of Hassan and escaped when that force was disposed of, settling near Borneo, and eventually

raiding a British settlement, killing and wounding some thirty-eight people. After this affair he took refuge with his followers in the Sulu Islands and gathered about himself some hundreds of disaffected men, mostly outlaws and trouble makers. Several attempts were made by the governor of Sulu to capture this outfit, but his force was not sufficient to surround them in the great swamps in which they had taken refuge, and it was necessary to send troops from other posts in the department. Pala and most of his followers were killed and a considerable number of rifles captured.

The destruction of this band of outlaws removed the only actively disturbing element in the department at present. Permits to hold firearms are now being taken out in various Moro districts, and prescribed licenses paid. In some instances arms have been turned in by Moros to the district governors for safe-keeping. The Moro problem need cause no anxiety or alarm; it is like the general Philippine problem—a matter of time and education—and will be readily solved. The assistant chief of constabulary has rendered all assistance in his power whenever called upon, and the constabulary on the Pala expedition rendered notably good service.

A large amount of reconnaissance work has been done, and a great number of valuable maps made. Our knowledge of the Moro country is now comparatively thorough, and there is no section which is not well covered by information concerning the character of the country, etc.

STATIONS OF TROOPS.

There have been no important changes in the stations of troops during the year. The temporary station at Taraca, on Lake Lanao, has been given up, conditions in the valley no longer requiring the presence of troops. The garrison at Vicars has been reduced to two companies of infantry. In effecting this reduction two companies of infantry were sent to Malabang and the field battery to Camp Keithley. Temporary stations, garrisoned by scouts, have been established at Sapacan, on the Dansalan River, about 9 miles from Kudarangan, and a point on the Dansalan one-half mile from Kudarangan, to prevent supplies, etc., being sent out to the hostiles and to protect those natives who are loyal to the government. These stations will soon be abandoned, as good order now prevails in this district.

CONSTRUCTION AT VARIOUS POSTS.

Construction at Overton is completed, with the exception of such minor alterations as will be necessary from time to time. At Camp Keithley (formerly Marahui) comfortable grass and bamboo barracks and quarters have been completed for men and officers, and a hospital of permanent construction is being finished. This is an excellent location for a large garrison for the reasons mentioned in last year's report, but until the railroad is constructed or a first-class wagon road built it will not be practicable to build economically permanent barracks and quarters. At Malabang nearly all construction is temporary, of grass and nipa. These buildings are being kept in habitable repair pending the construction of barracks and quarters at Parang and transfer of the bulk of the garrison to that

station, whereupon the policy heretofore outlined will be carried out as to Malabang; i. e., the construction of permanent quarters for the small garrison which it is proposed to continue at this station.

Construction at Parang has been limited to one new barrack building and minor repairs of existing building pending construction of the permanent post. At Cottabato and its up-river stations general repairs have been made sufficient to keep the building occupied in habitable condition. Margosatubig has required some new construction of temporary character for shelter of the company of scouts stationed at that point. Construction at Zamboanga has been extensive during the past year, and is still being pushed forward as rapidly as practicable. The completed post will furnish ample quarters and barracks for department headquarters, regimental headquarters, band and one battalion of infantry. Construction and general repairs at Jolo are practically completed, and the station now has most excellent barracks and quarters of permanent type for ten organizations.

Construction described as permanent in this report includes all construction of frame buildings of American or native lumber and combinations of wood and masonry. It is believed that native lumber should be used to as great an extent as possible, especially in the frames and floors, and that all roofing of permanent buildings should be of tile or galvanized iron. Rubberoid, paroid, asbestos and similar roofing should be avoided in all permanent work. They are, it is believed, of little value, entirely unsatisfactory, increase rather than diminish danger from fire, and are very expensive for the reason that they must be laid on a solid, smooth-surfaced roof and last only a short time. They are always unsightly and injure the appearance of buildings on which they are used.

In selecting native woods for use in permanent construction great care should be exercised. Many of them last almost indefinitely; others deteriorate and quickly fall to pieces. The type of permanent construction which is most satisfactory is one embodying the use of rubble, or other masonry, for the first story, and good native lumber, with tile or galvanized iron roof, for the second. This type of construction best meets all the requirements of the climate, both from the standpoint of durability and comfort. It is believed that all permanent construction at posts where troops will be maintained for many years should be of the most substantial character, and that reasonable increase in cost, incident to such construction, will soon be converted into an economy. Plenty of room, good verandas, bath rooms, sleeping quarters, etc., well off the ground, are essential to the comfort of officers and men. Two-story buildings afford the best opportunity to secure these conditions. The lower story serves for offices, mess rooms, storerooms, etc., and the upper for the sleeping and lounging quarters.

GARRISON OF THE DEPARTMENT.

This has remained practically unchanged during the past year as to the number of organizations. Of the 50 companies of Philippine Scouts on duty in the islands, only 6 have been on duty in the Department of Mindanao. Two more are required and have been asked for,

and assurances given that they will be furnished as soon as their services elsewhere can be spared. When received, these companies will enable the second battalion of scouts to be organized.

There should be no reduction in the garrison of this department for a number of years. Such action will be misunderstood by the ignorant and fanatical portion of the population, and result in increased disturbances and loss of life. These people are ignorant and know nothing of our resources and power beyond what they see; and removal of troops or reduction of garrisons only gives fanatical Arab priests apparent reason to commit acts of hostility, resulting in disturbed conditions, unrest and loss of life, consequences which can be largely avoided by continuing the present force until conditions are thoroughly settled and civil control fully established and recognized by the people. Our regiments, even at their best, are little better than skeleton organizations. Companies, shortly after arrival, average 50 to 60 men, which means that 40 to 45 men are all that a company can turn out for field service, and during the last months of service this number is frequently reduced to 20 to 30 men per company. Regiments serving in these islands should have at least a strength of 80 men per company—100 would be better; and every man sent out, excepting only soldiers serving for retirement, who will reenlist, should have two years and three months to serve. Under existing conditions regiments are soon little more than battalions in strength, a most undesirable condition in a regular organization a month or more from its source of recruits.

RESERVATIONS.

During the past year an excellently situated reservation has been set aside at Marahui (Camp Keithley), on the shores of Lake Lanao, also one at Parang, and recommendations have been forwarded to the effect that the reservation at Zamboanga be somewhat enlarged to prevent the crowding up on the boundary line, near the quarters, of houses of an undesirable character.

Recommendations have also been made to set aside, within the walls of Jolo, for the use of the United States, certain small tracts of land occupied by buildings pertaining to the military establishment, and also a tract outside the walls, of sufficient size, for a drill ground, target range, stables and certain other necessary buildings. Care has been exercised to avoid, to as great an extent as practicable, encroaching upon land which may be required for the growth of the town. A suitable rifle range has been laid out on the public land adjoining the Camp Overton reservation, and as soon as the survey of it is completed a recommendation will be submitted to the effect that it be added to the present reservation.

Much difficulty has been encountered in the matter of titles to property situated within the limits of reservations. Many false claims are filed, and as there are no existing records in the Philippines of the acts of the Spanish politico-military government of the southern islands in the matter of grants, sales, etc., of land, except in and about the town of Jolo, many of the claims will be confirmed. Such records as existed were burned in the fire which destroyed a great portion of Zamboanga just previous to the American occupation. It is be-

lieved that many of the claims now submitted are entirely fraudulent, but in the absence of all records, and in the face of scores of willing witnesses to almost any claim made, these claims are very difficult to deal with, and unless something is done to clear up the matter the interests of the Government will suffer. It has been recommended by the department commander during the past year that steps be taken to obtain from the Spanish Government a copy of the records of action taken by its representatives in this department and elsewhere in the southern islands, the expense to be borne partly by the Philippine government and partly by the United States. Unless some action is taken the Government will lose much valuable property. In brief, the present situation is one in which the Government stands to lose heavily in valuable land belonging to it through failure to secure evidence which, in all probability, is available.

The post at Marahui, formerly known as Camp Marahui, has been named Camp Keithley, on the recommendation of the department commander, in honor and commemoration of the soldierly and heroic conduct of Private Fernando Keithley, of the Twenty-eighth Infantry, during an affair with Moros, in which he lost his life.

MILITARY SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT.

The duties pertaining to this department have been promptly and satisfactorily performed throughout the year.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

The duties pertaining to this department have been satisfactorily performed throughout the year.

JUDGE-ADVOCATE'S DEPARTMENT.

The work of this department has been efficiently performed. Considerable delay in transmission of cases has been unavoidable in many instances, due to infrequent mail service. Whenever practicable this has been considered in acting upon the cases.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

The various duties pertaining to this department have been satisfactorily performed by its representatives throughout the department.

Transportation.—The amount of transportation allowed the department is, as a rule, sufficient and its quality excellent. Its maintenance is necessarily expensive, and will continue to be until forage is largely grown in the Philippines, especially grasses, to replace the hay now brought here from the United States. A small sum has been allotted for experiments in the growing of various grasses suitable for fodder, and experiments are now being made at posts in the department, but as yet sufficient information is not available for a report. A very great saving will be made in the cost of transportation in the department by constructing the proposed narrow-gauge railroad from Overton to Marahui. This project, bearing the approval of the department and division commanders, is now under consideration by the War Department. Detailed reasons for the con-

struction of the line are set forth in full in last year's report and in special reports. The yearly saving in transportation, which the construction of this line will make possible, will nearly equal the cost of construction. In addition to the great economy to the Government it will open up a rich country and render accessible one of the most attractive and healthful regions in the Philippines, and render practicable the establishment of a large permanent post on Lake Lanao, where, on account of the elevation, the climatic conditions are excellent.

Pack transportation in the department has rendered good service during the year, and trains, as a rule, have been kept in a very satisfactory condition, especially the train at Jolo. Pack transportation can be used over comparatively large areas of Mindanao and the Sulu Islands. This important branch of army transportation should be carefully kept up throughout the army at large, and the art of packing retained and thoroughly taught. At present the old pack-masters are rapidly disappearing, and no one is coming up to take their place, and there is danger of serious deterioration in this branch of transportation.

Cargadores.—Long continued and comparatively extensive field operations in the interior of Mindanao have been very effectively and economically conducted by the use of native cargadores, each carrying from 40 to 50 pounds. These men, as a rule, were paid 25 cents gold and a ration of rice and dried fish per day. In some instances, when the work has been unusually severe, 37½ cents gold has been paid, without a ration. Sixty cargadores to 100 men are ample for ten days. This is the only available means of transportation in the dense forests of the interior and in great morasses like the Rio Grande Valley. Cargadores go anywhere the troops go, are easily handled, and give the minimum of trouble. They are also useful in clearing trails, building temporary shelters, etc.

Transports.—The recommendations of last year concerning inter-island transports are renewed. These recommendations have no relation whatever to trans-Pacific transports, or to those plying between New York and Manila. It is believed that the present ocean transports should be retained in the service, as it is very doubtful if as comfortable and satisfactory service to all concerned, both Government and passenger, could be obtained on any commercial line, and by maintaining these large transports the Government is always in position to move promptly such troops as may be needed in emergency.

Clothing.—The recommendations made in last year's report as to clothing are renewed. The blue-flannel shirt should not be issued for use with the service uniform. It furnishes a very conspicuous target and defeats the purposes of the khaki-colored uniform. The strap on the service legging is its weakest point, and the cause of more trouble with the legging than anything else. It should be strengthened or protected in such a manner as to give it more durability, or the legging be so made as to do away with the spat portion and strap, and lace in closely about the shoe from the instep up, covering that portion of the ankle and leg covered by the puttee. The legging as now made, if put on to fit snugly, is so strained about the ankle and strap portions as to soon give way. With the new shoe the present

style of legging does not appear to be necessary, as mud and water will only enter the shoe over the top. It is recommended that short leggings, without the strap and spat portion, be substituted for the present canvas legging, the substituted legging to be made to lace tightly about the ankle and calf.

The woolen puttee has been very generally worn by officers on field service, and found superior to the legging in mud and wet country. It also furnishes good protection from insects, mud, and leeches. These results could be largely obtained by a combination of the present regulation shoe and a snug-fitting legging, coming down for $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 inches below and over the top of the shoe.

The recommendation of last year that all clothing, blankets, etc., be packed in tin-lined cases is especially renewed. The cost of light tin lining, such as is used throughout the East, is small, and would not amount, it is believed, to 10 per cent of the value of materials now lost from effects of insufficient protection from dampness and insects, not to mention the cost of labor spent in drying and examining clothing as now packed. The loss of clothing is not peculiar to outlying districts, but is equally prevalent in Manila. It is incident to the climate, and can be largely averted by packing as recommended. If tin lining is economical to the merchant, large and small, it certainly would be to the Government. Packages should be reduced, as nearly as practicable, to a uniform size and be made of such weight and size as to secure the best results in transportation by wagon or pack train.

The clothing issued is generally of excellent quality, but there is something, probably in our method of dyeing khaki, which renders it liable to spot and to lose strength and fade in this climate. The khaki procured from Hongkong and other eastern ports is lighter, lasts longer, and does not fade, spot, or rot out as does ours. An examination of fresh samples of each class shows our khaki to be a better material and stronger when new, but it fades rapidly, spots, and does not last well.

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT.

The various duties pertaining to this department have been satisfactorily performed by its representatives throughout the department. Rations and commissary supplies furnished the department have been ample in amount and of excellent quality. It is recommended that all articles of the ration issued to troops in tin should be in flat-surfaced packages, of such size and weight as will permit the making up of larger packages for man, pack animal and wagon transportation. All packages should be plainly and indelibly marked, showing their contents not by labels, which readily wash or rub off, but by stamping on the package as well as on the tin case containing it, showing clearly what the contents are and how much of it is in the package. For instance, a package of bacon should be stamped "Bacon, 20 rations," and each smaller package should also be stamped "5 rations," "10 rations," or whatever it may contain. In this way much time and confusion will be saved in issuing, especially in case of green troops. The present shapes are awkward and difficult to pack. Cylindrical packages are especially difficult to pack

and cause much waste space. In time of war, far from our base, and with limited transportation, economy of space and readily handled packages will be matters of great importance.

The scout ration is far in excess of the requirements of these troops, and consists largely of articles not to be obtained in the country from which these men are drawn and with which they were unfamiliar prior to enlistment.

The ration issued the constabulary is much cheaper, entirely sufficient, as shown in hundreds of instances, is generally procurable in the islands, and consists of articles with which the men are familiar.

Our scout soldier is expensive, far more so than he need be, and it is not believed that a continuance of this expense is in any way necessary. Equally good men as those now in service can be secured and maintained as economically as the constabulary is being at present maintained. The men are from the same class, and from the same sections of the islands. All they need in the way of rations is an ample supply of those food stuffs with which they are familiar. Sound policy would seem to indicate this line of procedure, not only because of its advantage to the home Government in the way of saving on transportation and in cost of the ration, but also in the way of an encouragement to the local producer.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

The duties pertaining to this department have been efficiently performed throughout the department. A considerable number of medical officers and a large proportion of the Hospital Corps have been almost constantly in the field, either with reconnaissance parties or expeditions against Moros.

Both medical officers and men of the Hospital Corps have been generally commended for the excellence of their service.

The health of the troops in the field has been excellent. Most of the field work during the past year has been done during the rainy season in the Cottabato Valley and the great morass about lakes Liguasan and Buluan. Despite mud, water, tropical sun and a life of the greatest exposure and fatigue, troops have had little sickness, a result which can be largely accounted for by the general observance of the orders directing that all drinking water be boiled and that all men take mosquito bars into the field, and the further fact that the climate is far from unfavorable for field service. This freedom from sickness in a country popularly supposed to be deadly in the rainy season is simply another illustration of the erroneous character of our early ideas as to the effect of the Philippine climate on the white man. There has been far more field service in this department during the past two years than in all the rest of the Philippines, and probably more than in the balance of the Army, yet sickness in the field is a factor which can be almost disregarded when the precautions mentioned above are carried out.

In my opinion there is no subject upon which more nonsense has been written than that of the bad effects of the Philippine climate upon the health of officers and men.

As above stated, field service in this department has been constant, and health conditions excellent. There is no reason, so far as climate

is concerned, why, if necessary, our troops should not be maintained here for a considerably longer period of time than at present. These opinions are based upon six years of tropical service, two of them in these islands. Children do as well here as in the hotter portions of the Southern States. Plenty of exercise in the open air, a moral life, with avoidance of dissipation, will insure as good average health here as elsewhere. The persistent reports concerning the deadly effect of the Philippine climate, the accounting for lax morals, dishonesty, and the results of excesses as effects of the Philippine climate are most misleading and work great injury to the development of these most valuable islands. A few men break down here, but man for man, garrison for garrison, the troops of this most southern department will, in all which pertains to health and physical condition, compare favorably with any troops I have seen in the southern portion of the United States. The Philippine climate can be encountered by all in average condition without anxiety, provided a moral life is led, with plenty of exercise in the open air. Sunstroke is practically unknown, and heat prostration rare, except in dense, high grass, where air is not moving, and the full rays of the sun have raised the temperature to a high point.

The construction of permanent posts, with good barracks and quarters, is rapidly putting service in the Philippines upon a footing which will compare favorably, so far as comfort is concerned, with service in the warm sections of our own country.

It is extremely desirable that the Medical Corps of the Army should be sufficiently increased to permit the replacement of the present contract surgeons by regular medical officers. Troops serving in remote sections are entitled to the best obtainable medical and surgical skill, and it is only proper that all medical officers of the Army shall have passed a sufficiently thorough and rigid professional examination to determine their fitness. Many contract surgeons have rendered excellent service, but it is for the best interest of the Army that all medical officers should be members of the regular medical establishment and men of proven qualifications.

PAY DEPARTMENT.

The duties pertaining to this department have been promptly and satisfactorily performed throughout the year.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

The duties pertaining to the office of ordnance officer of the department have been efficiently and promptly performed.

Ordnance supplies.—The quality of material furnished is, as a rule, excellent. Exceptions: Ammunition for mountain batteries and pistol ammunition, caliber .38, made prior to 1904. The ammunition for the mountain guns is old and defective. It is understood that a new issue is soon to be made. The revolver cartridges of 1902 and 1903 are very irregular, and many of them are poor.

Black leather equipment for cavalry is entirely undesirable, and fair leather only should be issued. This latter lasts well and keeps bright and clean when properly taken care of. There has been a

general tendency to oil too much and clean too little, the result being black, sticky, dirty-looking equipment, which quickly rots out.

The recommendations made in last year's report as to the revolver are renewed. The experience of the past year has only tended to confirm the opinion therein expressed, which was that the .38 caliber revolver is of little value as a weapon; it will not stop a man unless he is shot through the head or heart, or happens to break a leg. There is very little shock effect. The service revolver should be caliber .45. This is the opinion of practically all officers who have had occasion to use this weapon against an enemy.

The rowel of the officer's spur should be better protected from below and behind. As at present issued, it rapidly cuts up boots and shoes when worn in rough country. The pattern adopted in 1902 was designed to obviate this defect. The spur buckle generally issued here is not of the prescribed pattern and is clumsy.

The grip of the officer's saber should be longer, and the guard larger. As at present made, sufficient room for free play of the hand is not given, and adequate protection to wrist and hand is wanting. As long as the saber is carried it is believed that it should possess all of the qualities of a good weapon. The present officer's saber has few such characteristics, and as a weapon is of little value.

Now that it has been decided to issue a suitable bayonet, it is recommended that the necessary material be issued to enable actual instruction in the use of the bayonet to be given. The present bayonet exercise is of little value except as a physical exercise. The men know very little of the possibilities of the weapon, and never will until they are given the material to practice and are put through a course of instruction by competent instructors. Each company of infantry should have at least six complete sets of equipment for this instruction.

SIGNAL CORPS.

The work of this corps has been performed as efficiently as the means at hand permitted. The deep-sea cables in the waters of the department have been almost constantly out of order throughout the year, and cable communication with Jolo and Siassi has been interrupted almost continuously, and for months at a time communication with Tukuran has been cut off. These cables should be thoroughly overhauled and largely relaid if the service is to be maintained in an efficient condition.

Surveys for a land line from Piket to Davao are being made, and, if found practicable, a line connecting these points will be constructed. This is much needed, as it will establish communication between Davao, a rapidly growing section, and other portions of the Philippines. Piket is now connected with the general system. Cable is now being laid across Lake Lanao. This cable will render it unnecessary to longer continue the troublesome line from Misamis to the Tukuran side, a section which has always been difficult to maintain.

PAY OF NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

It is recommended that the minimum pay of first sergeants be \$50 per month. The position occupied by these men is most important, and the efficiency of the company is largely dependent upon them.

The pay of sergeants should not be less than \$25 per month. There should be a very marked distinction between the pay of noncommissioned officers of these grades and that of the private, and even the corporal, as an incentive for the latter to strive for promotion. At present there is not sufficient difference in the pay of the higher noncommissioned officers and the other enlisted men to emphasize the importance of the position of these noncommissioned officers, and the salary paid noncommissioned officers of this grade is in no way commensurate with the duties which they are called upon to perform and the responsibilities which they must thereby assume. These positions should be sufficiently well paid to insure every effort being made to hold them.

EQUIPMENT NEEDED.

A suitable intrenching tool should be at once adopted and issued to the infantry, and be constantly worn as a part of the soldier's equipment. Once in action under modern conditions he will never be without it. It is not only a defensive, but an offensive weapon. Conditions incident to modern warfare render this implement especially important.

Suitable wire cutters to be fixed to the belt and secured around the neck by a lanyard should be issued at the rate of one per squad of infantry, and should be of a type which can be worked with one hand.

It is believed that the haversack should be abandoned, as it is so placed as to be a great hindrance on the march, interfering greatly in getting through thickets or grass, and is usually soaked in crossing streams. A suitable pack, partly supported on the hips and by straps passing over the shoulders and under the arms, is recommended. This should be made as light as practicable, and the soldier's load should be cut down to the lowest possible limit—one suit of underclothing, one pair of socks, tooth brush, towel and soap, with the shelter-half, the blanket, and possibly poncho, rations and extra ammunition, will make as heavy a pack as is consistent with a fair degree of mobility. Under conditions where wagon transportation is available, a great portion of this pack could probably be transported in the company wagons. In a cold climate an overcoat and extra blanket, or sleeping bag, would have to be added to the pack. Underclothing should be of light or heavy wool.

It is believed that the question of a shorter overcoat than that at present issued should be considered, especially for use in northern countries. In the far North runners, hunters, sledge drivers, and all classes living a life largely in the open under conditions of extreme cold, use a short, heavy coat, a little longer than an ordinary reefer jacket, the legs being protected by additional thicknesses of clothing, the object being to give mobility. It is believed that this type of garment would be as useful to the soldier as the long coat built on present lines, and permit him much greater activity and mobility. Personal comfort and convenience must be made largely subservient to mobility, which is one of the greatest factors in war. Other conditions being anywhere nearly equal, it insures success to the army possessing it.

Ability to shoot and to march is what is wanted in infantry to-day, and the equipment must be reduced to the lowest limit, in order to

enable us to obtain the all-important factor of mobility. With the strong, excellent shoe now prescribed, and with one good suit of uniform, shirt and underclothing, a soldier should be considered as equipped for a stage of a campaign; and if his officers see that he is so equipped there should be no difficulty, except in exceptional cases, in his going on in good condition until again able to draw what is needed.

In the Tropics, in campaigns such as are incident to control of the Moros and other disorderly natives, operating in jungle and tropical forests, a certain number of bolos—20 to the company—are essential, and their issue should be authorized, not alone to scouts, but to all foot troops.

Four repeating shotguns per company, with metal shells for buckshot, should also be issued to troops serving under the above conditions. The paper buckshot cartridge should never be issued, as it usually sticks at the critical moment. Light metal shells are now sold almost as cheaply as the best class of paper shell, and are the only shells which should be issued to troops to be used against an enemy. The Winchester pump gun, with buckshot, is by far the best weapon we have for outpost duty in jungle and tall grass.

SMALL-ARMS PRACTICE.

Target practice throughout the department has been excellent. Much interest has been shown, and most satisfactory results obtained. The division infantry competition was held at Malabang, Mindanao, which possesses the best range in the Philippines and one of the best in the Army. Much credit for this range is due to the colonel of the Twenty-third Infantry. One officer of the department established a new record for the carbine at the division cavalry competition.

It is believed that the use of the gun sling, as now practiced, at 200 and 300 yards, is most undesirable. Officers and men harness themselves up in many different ways, all of which are contrary to the spirit which should govern shooting at these ranges and none of which would be used in action at the ranges mentioned. It is recommended that all use of the sling be prohibited at these ranges, except such use as can be made without any arrangement of the sling other than that made to sling the gun over the shoulder or across the back on the march, and that the wrapping of the sling about the feet, under or between the legs, etc., be prohibited. Such advantage as can be instantly made of the sling by a twist about the elbow or wrist, or both, without any delay or alteration of the sling, as the gun is taken off the back or shoulder, is not objectionable and is consistent with the conditions which will govern at short range. Many of the methods now in use could not be used in action, and while permitted by the present regulations, only serve to make scores and in no way train the soldier in the free, rapid and accurate use of his rifle at these ranges, and are contrary to the real object striven for, namely, ability to use the piece rapidly and accurately at these ranges under service conditions.

It is believed that skirmish firing should be done, in part, at least, with the field equipment on. At present none of our small-arms practice is under service conditions as to equipment, and there is

every reason why it should be so, at least to a sufficient extent to familiarize the men with the use of the rifle with campaign equipment on.

It is also recommended that the present requirements for expert riflemen be modified as follows: That the test be made in the manner as at present prescribed, but instead of limiting it to once over the prescribed course, that the course be gone over twice, the total score to be not less than 408 points, or an average of 204 points for each test. It is thought that such increase will result in obtaining a more correct measure of the real shooting ability of the aspirants.

It is also recommended that expert riflemen be given an increase of pay of \$4 per month for each year they qualify; that sharpshooters be given \$2 per month, and marksmen \$1 per month increase in pay for each year they qualify. What is wanted in the Army are men who can march and shoot. An expert rifleman is worth much more than a poor shot. The same holds true in a lesser degree in the case of the sharpshooter and of the marksman. This increase of pay is believed to be a sound proposition, and one which would greatly increase the interest in small-arms practice and improve the efficiency of the Army. The cost would be small in comparison with the results obtained, and it is fitting that he who can best use his weapon, and is thereby a more valuable man, other things being equal, should be better paid.

GENERAL SERVICE CORPS.

Nothing is more needed in the Army to-day than a general service corps, not only on the ground of economy, but of discipline and efficiency. The constant and heavy drain upon the command to furnish drivers, gardeners, carpenters, etc., would be done away with, and the civilian element, represented by teamsters, packers, etc., which is practically beyond the reach of discipline, would be replaced by men of this corps. The establishment of this corps would result in great economy, in increased efficiency of the Army, and tend to improve discipline. A general service corps is urgently recommended.

FIRST-CLASS PRIVATES.

It is believed that the establishment of the grades of first and second class privates in the line of the Army would be advantageous and for the best interests of the Army, the authority to make promotions and reductions to be vested in company, troop and battery commanders, the percentage of each class to be fixed in accordance with the regulations now governing in the staff corps.

DISCIPLINE.

Discipline has been good as a rule. The degree of excellence has corresponded to the efficiency of the officers in command of posts and organizations. Our soldiers are an excellent lot, and will do cheerfully all that is required of them, no matter what it is, if they are under officers who do their full duty and so conduct themselves as to be a model for and stimulus to the men. A disorderly garrison means poor officers, and little or nothing else. The perfunctory per-

formance of duty by listless, untidy officers, with little heart in their profession or interest in their appearance, has more to do with the production of poor soldiers than anything else, and yet this type of officer must go up in regular promotion unless he fails in his examination—a most unusual event under existing conditions—or so grossly conducts himself as to necessitate the imposition of the extreme penalty of expulsion from the service. It appears that some method should be adopted to compel the elimination from the service of officers whose records for efficiency are poor or indifferent, the minimum number to be thus eliminated to be fixed for each arm and corps of the service per year, and thus secure a reasonable flow of promotion for those who are judged fit to remain in the service and receive the benefits thereof.

The elimination of those who are physically unfitted for service and those who do not attain a standard of real efficiency as indicated, not only by written examination, but by the efficient performance of all the duties of an officer and the possession of those qualities of personal aptitude which mark a good officer, should be insisted upon. With our small Army and large population there is no reason whatever for retaining on the active list other than thoroughly efficient officers. Unless some effective system of elimination be adopted the interests of the Army would appear to demand that some method be devised for advancing those officers who are known to be thoroughly efficient and worthy of promotion. Such alternative would appear to be provided for by a most careful system of limited promotion by selection. It is believed, however, that the elimination of those who do not show marked capacity would, if carried out to the letter, cause less dissatisfaction than promotion by selection, and accomplish, to a large extent, the object aimed at, namely, a body of officers efficient throughout.

NAVY COOPERATION.

The commanding officers of naval vessels in these waters have cordially cooperated in operations against hostile Moros, and have rendered most valuable assistance whenever called upon.

PROVISIONAL COMPANIES.

In order to have companies of adequate strength, provisional companies of 100 men and 4 officers each, representing each of the four regiments of the department, were formed early in the fiscal year and assigned to duty in the upper Rio Grande Valley. The men selected for these companies were taken from each company of the regiment from which the provisional company was drawn. Both officers and men were carefully selected for the work. The companies were supplied with cargadores, and rendered most valuable service. They were engaged in active field work during the entire rainy season in one of the most difficult sections of country to be found anywhere. There were comparatively few breakdowns among the officers and men. The organizations were very successful, and the work performed was of such a creditable character that especial mention will be made of it in general orders.

SCOUTS.

The term of service of the majority of the scouts in this department expired during the year, and the present personnel is largely new. The services of these scout companies have been satisfactory, as a general rule.

INSTRUCTION.

The routine instruction has been carried out as far as practicable. Field operations have interrupted in many instances. The effect of the prescribed daily drills and semiweekly marches under full field equipment has been to improve immensely the marching ability of the infantry in the department. Small garrisons and depleted companies render it exceedingly difficult to give proper instruction in field exercises, or to keep up a proper interest among the men. Ten to 30 men per company for drill is disheartening to the officer and renders it very difficult to develop much interest in the work. Consolidations of small garrisons and establishment of as large commands as possible should be attempted if the Army is to be brought to a high degree of efficiency or become familiar with the methods to be pursued under modern battle conditions.

Far more work under the full field equipment is necessary if we are to develop what is, as a rule, entirely neglected—the marching training of the soldier; the development of his ability to march with his equipment. This ability depends upon well-developed muscles and a familiarity with the load, and can not be left to be picked up when war is on without great risk of disaster. Mobility is one of the greatest factors, and unless we are counting on always meeting an enemy as unprepared as we are more attention should be paid to the instruction of the soldier in marching and shooting with the full field equipment on. At present there is very little of this type of instruction in our service and our troops need it badly. Daily instruction under full field equipment, including 100 rounds of ammunition and a weight equivalent to three days' rations, combined with two practice marches a week under this equipment, has been prescribed for and carried out by the infantry of this department during the past year. Swimming 50 yards with the full equipment (except the rifle), including 100 rounds of ammunition, has been insisted upon, and a large proportion of the men have qualified and practically all have been taught to swim. Cavalrymen have been taught to swim and to control their horses in the water. No complaints have been received from the men concerning these exercises. They have recognized them as vital to the real efficiency of the soldier.

The instruction in the use of the bayonet should be systematically carried out in every infantry company, and, as herein recommended, materials for such instruction should be furnished.

Thorough instruction in the use of the saber should be insisted upon among those equipped with this weapon. Many of our officers know little or nothing of the use of the saber as a weapon, and the great bulk of the enlisted men are little instructed in its use.

Much valuable information could be gathered by our officers if they were permitted to see more of the armies of other countries.

So far as officers serving in these islands are concerned this could be effected at small expense by authorizing that five officers of each regiment serving in the Philippines, to be selected by the colonel upon the relief of the regiment from duty here, be ordered to proceed to the United States, via the East and Europe, and given four months for the journey and called upon for a report on some designated subject. The mileage allowed would almost pay expenses, and the value to the service incident to the result of such journeys would be very great. The officers selected would see what Eastern and European armies are doing; their mental horizon would be enlarged, and their military value greatly increased. The selection of officers should be based upon their record for efficiency, and include field and company officers. Leaves for purpose of military investigation and study of foreign military systems and languages should be encouraged.

Systematic efforts should now be made to have a number of our officers acquire a knowledge of Japanese and Chinese. We are at present entirely in the hands of interpreters in all matters where these languages are concerned.

Most European governments, especially England, encourage their officers to acquire a knowledge of foreign languages and deal with them very liberally in the way of leaves for this purpose, the officers being required to pass an examination in the language selected after the proper period of study.

The department commander desires to express his appreciation of the efficient performance of duty by officers and men of the line and staff of the department, and especially of the services of the officers of his personal staff. A great amount of the hardest kind of field service has been performed in a highly satisfactory and efficient manner by the troops of this department.

Very respectfully,

LEONARD WOOD,
Major-General, Commanding.

THE MILITARY SECRETARY OF THE ARMY.

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